

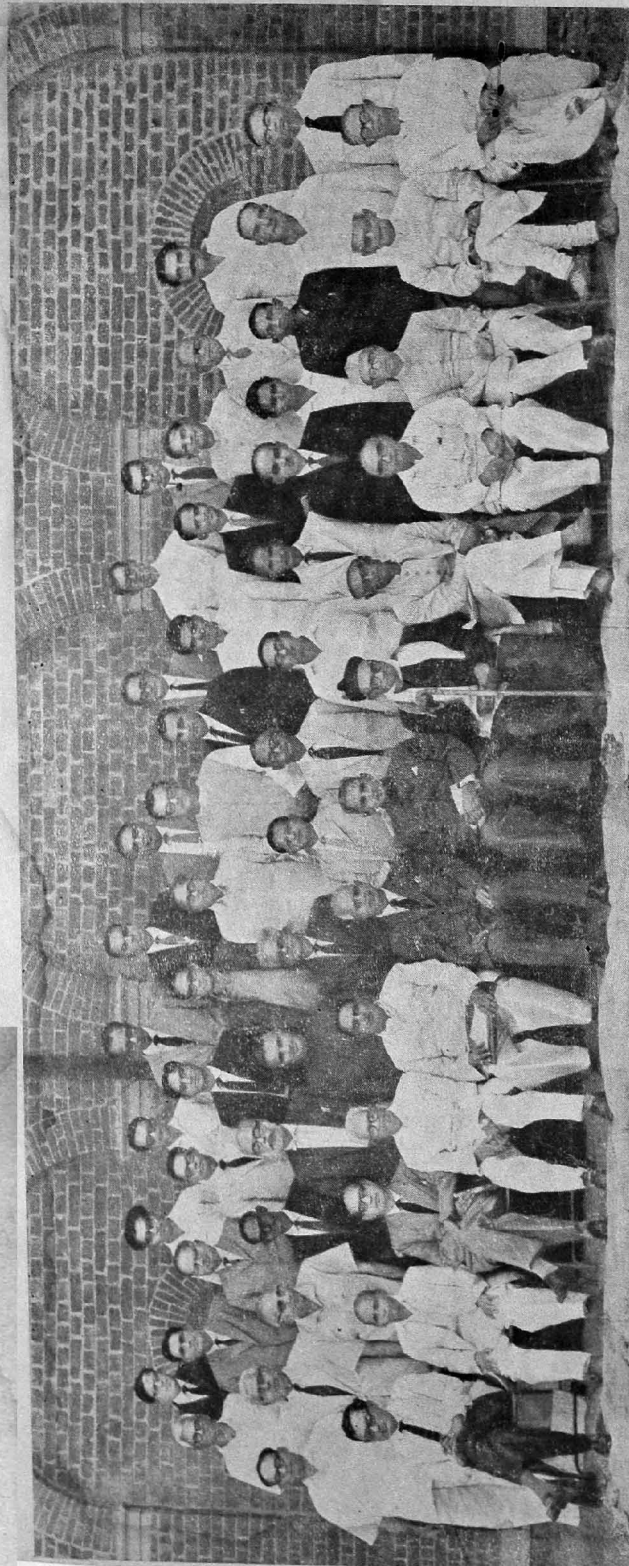
# INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

VOLUME XXXVII



DELHI  
OCTOBER 1966



*Seated from Left :* Shri V. K. Bawa, Prof. G. H. Khare, Shri B. R. Nanda, Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad (*Local Secretary*), Shri K. D. Bhargava (*Secretary*), Shri P. N. Kirpal (*Educational Adviser*), Dr. C. D. Deshmukhi (*Vice-Chancellor*), Mahamahopadhyaya D. V. Potdar, Prof. S. H. Askari, Dr. Sukumar Bhatiaacharya, Prof. M. Mujeeb, Dr. B. P. Saksena, Dr. N. K. Sinha.

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## ERRATA

| <i>Sl.<br/>No.</i> | <i>Page</i>                           | <i>For</i>                                   | <i>Read</i>                                       |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1.                 | Contents page, Annexure B, item 8     | India Businessmen                            | Indian Business-men                               |
| 2.                 | 3, Last para, line 1                  | Like to a word                               | Like to say a word                                |
| 3.                 | 41, Resolution by Ganda Singh, line 3 | Mubhal Court                                 | Mughal Court                                      |
| 4.                 | 49, Explanatory Note, line 20         | Regional Hstorcal                            | Regional Historical                               |
| 5.                 | 83, line 2                            | and exist of                                 | and exit of                                       |
| 6.                 | 85, para 2, last line                 | Dadni merchants                              | Dadni merchants                                   |
| 7.                 | 89, para 3, line 2                    | History of Party and                         | History of Parry and                              |
| 8.                 | 119, Footnote 8 and 9                 | 8. Before W.A.<br>9. Before dler ,<br>George | 8. Morgan, E.V.<br>and Thomas<br>9. Chand, George |
| 9.                 | 122, para 3, line 12                  | Verelest                                     | Verelst   |
| 10.                | 123, para 1, line 22                  | Production and a sale                        | Production and Sale                               |
| 11.                | 124, line 4                           | it is to day                                 | it is to lay                                      |
| 12.                | 126, para 2, line 12                  | there every possibi-<br>lity                 | there is every pos-<br>sibility                   |
| 13.                | 127, para 2, line 2.                  | of pedling                                   | or pedling  |
| 14.                | 129, line 1                           | crops grown                                  | crops were grown                                  |
| 15.                | 133, line 35                          | the Subah                                    | the Subahs  |
| 16.                | 136, para 2, line 28                  | Dasturulami                                  | Dasturulaml                                       |
| 17.                | 139, line 9                           | paying muih                                  | paying much                                       |
| 18.                | 146, footnote 44                      | Tashrih-al-Agwam                             | Tashrih al-Aqwam                                  |
| 19.                | 152, footnote 101, line 4             | Banyais                                      | Banias  |
| 20.                | 158, line 4                           | Medical                                      | Medieval  |
| 21.                | 158, line 32                          | Proof-in-Charge                              | Prof. in Charge                                   |
| 22.                | 159, line 3                           | Prof. of Medical                             | Prof. of Medieval                                 |
| 23.                | 161, line 26                          | D. Litt.                                     | D. Litt.  |

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Dr. C. D. Deshmukh

# **INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION**

## **THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

### **DELHI, 7-9 October 1966**

The 37th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission as reconstituted under Government of India, Ministry of Education, Resolution No. F. 6/25/63-A.10(C.5) dated 20th November 1965, was held on 7th, 8th and 9th of October 1966, at the Arts Faculty Building, Delhi, under the auspices of the University of Delhi. It was presided over by Shri Prem Kirpal, Secretary and Educational Adviser, Government of India. Mahamahopadhyaya D. V. Potdar took the Chair in the absence of the President and conducted the Proceedings on the 7th afternoon and on the 8th.

A list of members who attended the session is appended.

A group photograph of the members was taken before the formal inauguration of the session.

### **OPEN SESSION**

#### **Welcome Address**

The Open Session of the Commission commenced on 7th October at 10 A.M. with a Welcome Address by Dr. C. D. Deshmukh, Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi.

"Mr. President, Members of the Commission, Ladies and Gentlemen : It is my privilege to welcome you on behalf of the Delhi University to the 37th session of the Indian Historical Records Commission. This is the second time that the Commission is meeting under the auspices of this University, the last occasion being when the Commission celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 1948. I trust we would have the pleasure of inviting you again for your Diamond Jubilee.

"The last time the Commission met was in 1961. Following the Report of the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) presided over by my distinguished friend Dr. Tara Chand, I understand there was a good deal of thinking on the advisability of continuing this body. The Government has done well in reconstituting it, and not allowing it to lapse, for while the archivists have their own problems, the views of the general body of historians, the actual users of archives, are of equal relevance and importance. The Universities and learned institutions have a major role to play. For the

development of archives on sound lines, there is need for a continuous dialogue between the two, the archivists and the historians, and the Commission provides the forum. The history of the Commission shows that, by drawing the attention of the Government year after year to the many problems and difficulties which historians of Modern India face, they have helped in the past in securing a liberalisation of the rules of access to Government records, in chalking out a publication programme, in the adoption of the scheme for a National Register of archives of historical value in private hands, etc.

"Let me say a few words on the role the Universities have to play in the development of archives. First of all, history teaching, at least at the University level, must become more source-conscious. This is the only way of developing the spirit of inquiry, which is as essential in historical as in scientific studies. Students do not often know, or realise to the extent they should, that the categorical statements of facts made in text-books or monographs are in most cases just opinions considered most plausible by the generality of scholars in the light of all the available information. It is the general belief that Asoka was a Buddhist, but how many students know that distinguished scholars like Father Heras have held that he was a Brahmanical Hindu, and this view is not without some sound arguments in its favour. Again, in a general book on English History is stated "When Pym and Hampden cried 'No taxation without representation', they meant 'No taxation of the rich', of the new urban, commercial class whom they represented, and Charles I lost his head, because he sought to tax those who could best bear the burden." I do not want to go into the merits of the question, but I do ask if students are aware that there is another view of that "tyrant" king. Apart from the notorious differences among scholars, often acrimonious to the point of fighting a duel, it is now realised that the historians' point of view changes with every advance in knowledge and the changes in the socio-economic pattern of society. Every generation, in fact, reconstitutes its own view of the past. It would be an interesting experience to compare standard works published at intervals of 30-40 years on the history of the Greeks or of Tudor England or any field in which there has not been much of fresh "evidence" as such. I repeat, let students of history become more source-conscious; let them not take the things they read to be "settled facts", immutable and unchangeable.

"Let me pass on to another aspect in which there is need for fresh thinking in our Universities. It is now a truism to say that history is not merely a study of wars and battles or of party strife. But are our Universities paying the attention that is necessary to the other aspects of history? How many have made specific provision for advanced studies in history where it impinges on other branches of knowledge? Let us remember that a knowledge of the historical background is an essential preliminary in any field of study, and one has to acquire the discipline of historical research before one can enter

this field as an advanced student. In such an important subject as Economics, the University of Delhi seems to be the only University in India that has a Chair for Economic History. In the Sciences, no doubt, a Committee has been constituted to write the History of Science in India, but, to my knowledge there is no Chair, in the country, for the History of Science anywhere. Again, I understand a beginning has been made in the study of military campaigns in earlier times by scholars attached to the Historical Section of the Ministry of Defence, but we do not as yet have a Chair in Military History, devoted to the study of military weapons, strategy, etc.

"To take up another aspect, since Independence, there has been remarkable growth in University education, and almost every region has one or more Universities. When Universities were few and we were making a beginning in historical studies, the concentration on subjects covering the whole of India was quite understandable. In such a vast country like ours, regional studies are of the utmost importance. To an inquiring mind, there should be quite adequate materials locally available awaiting exploitation. The study of the Lingayat Mutts in Mysore or of the socio-economic pattern of the zamindari system in Orissa in the last century is as valuable as the history of the war with Afghanistan in the time of Auckland. Greater attention to regional studies would give an indigenous vigour to the research activities of scholars in the different Universities and the hitherto untapped sources would yield a rich harvest. I am quite conscious that during the last decade there has been a distinct change for the better, but the glamour for subjects of All-India nature is still very pronounced.

"The matters I have dealt with so far have a direct bearing on the subject of archives, for the approach of the archivist would be, at least to some extent, conditioned by the trends in historiography, as for instance in the appraisal of records for permanent preservation. The growing interest in Administrative History, Economic History, History of Science, etc. would have a long range effect on archival development. It is highly significant that you have chosen for the subject of your seminar on the present occasion "Sources and Problems of Business History in India from 1600-1900". The question posed before the seminar is whether we have the necessary materials for a proper study on the subject in our accessible records, public or private. Are there new sources which we could tap and make them accessible to scholars? What steps are we to take to ensure that the future historian does not labour under the handicaps we suffer from now?

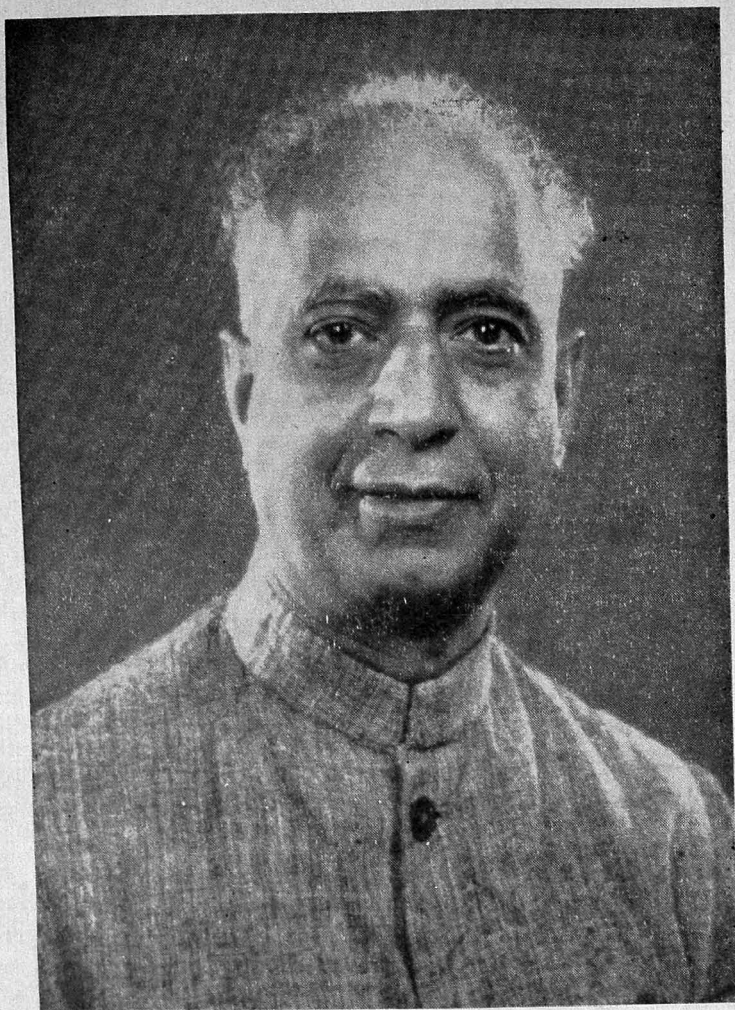
"I should also like to add a word or two on co-ordination of research in historical studies conducted at different centres. I understand that the National Archives of India is bringing out shortly a bulletin of research theses and dissertations in Modern Indian History for the period 1961-66 covering all the Universities and research centres, and similar bulletins have been

issued in the past. I cannot overstress the value of such publications, and I suggest that it should be issued regularly every year.

"Further, I understand that a distinguished member of your Commission Dr. N. K. Sinha has been engaged on behalf of the National Library, Calcutta, in the compilation of an exhaustive bibliography of all publications, official and non-official, bearing on Modern Indian History prior to 1900. We all realise that this is a work of a seminal nature, and historians await its publication eagerly. I should like to make only one suggestion, which must have occurred to those who have planned it. Whatever care may be taken to make the bibliography exhaustive, I have no doubt that quite a large number of books found in smaller, out of the way, collections would be left out. A conscious effort should be made to trace them out and an Addendum issued every year.

"This brings me on to the question of access to books and records. It is unfair to expect scholars to move to remote libraries to consult a couple of rare books or records. The solution lies in greater resort to the system of inter-library loans; there should be greater readiness on the part of libraries to send out their books, despite the danger of their occasionally being lost. Rare books, reports and records could be microfilmed and the microfilm copies could be lent out. Microfilm is not only a means of preservation but also of making the materials more easily accessible to scholars wherever they are. For instance the National Archives of India has a complete set of the Parliamentary Papers of Indian interest from 1800 to 1900 in microfilm. It should be possible, say for a scholar at Trivandrum, to consult any paper of his interest in his own place without having to come all the way to Delhi for the purpose. But this presumes a plentiful supply of raw film, which, I understand, is in very short supply owing to foreign exchange difficulties. I should say that local manufacture of raw film to ensure cheap and plentiful supply and also the machinery for microfilming etc. are matters of urgent necessity, let me say as important as setting up of a major library. There is also need for setting up, at least in a few centres, duplicating machines such as the Xerox machine. The National Archives and some University Libraries should be enabled to own such machines within the next 5 or 10 years so that important documents and reading material for students should be available to them.

"A word before I close on our own activities in the Delhi University in the field of your interest. As you know, our History Department is a major centre of historical research in Modern Indian History, and the location of the National Archives and the offices of the Government of India have greatly contributed to this. In the last few years the number of scholars registered for research has gone up—130 this year, the majority offering Modern period as their field. More than a dozen scholars have been awarded Doc-



Shri P. N. Kirpal

toral degrees. The setting up of a separate section of Economic History has been an important development, and this young Department has been conducting research. The History Department has acquired, you would be interested to know, a number of private papers of the British Viceroys, Secretaries of State and officials from the India Office Library, London, such as Lansdowne Papers, Hamilton Papers, Ampthill Papers, Temple Papers and the Minutes of the Council of Secretary of State. Orders have been placed for Elgin Papers.

"We have also conducted two seminars in the last two years on ideas influencing social, economic and political developments from 15th to 19th centuries and these have greatly helped in clearing up ideas and bringing out talent. Besides the two seminars to which scholars from various Universities were invited, the Department has been conducting seminars on various subjects which are attended by teachers of colleges and research scholars.

"It is expected that the deliberations of these seminars would be published shortly. We have also accepted the principle laid down by the Commission that every University must have a trained Archivist to take care of its records and we are giving effect to it.

"In conclusion, let me extend to you once again our warm welcome and wish you every success in your deliberations."

#### Presidential Address

After the delegates were welcomed by Dr. C. D. Deshmukh, Shri P. N. Kirpal delivered the Presidential Address.

"Mr. Vice-Chancellor, distinguished Members of the Commission, Ladies and Gentlemen. Let me, at the very outset, convey to you the sincere regrets of the Education Minister Shri M. C. Chagla for his inability to be present here today. He was particularly eager to participate in the deliberations of the Commission but as you know his recent illness has deprived him of the pleasure of being with you this morning. I have no doubt that this will be a matter of great disappointment to you all as it is personally to me, but let me assure you that his interest in your work remains unabated. You will be glad to know that he is now recovering from his illness and expects to be with us in Delhi very soon.

"The Commission is meeting after a lapse of five years and for this lapse of time I owe a word of explanation to its Members. As you know the Committee on Archival Legislation had suggested the abolition of the Commission with all its adjuncts and had recommended instead the establishment of a Central Advisory Board on Archives to be called Indian Archival Council. After weighing carefully all the pros and cons Government have ultimately decided to revive the Commission because it provides a unique forum



for exchanging ideas between the record-keepers and the record-users. This, you would agree with me, is absolutely essential for healthy and fruitful collaboration between the Archivist and the Historian.

"It is because of this collaboration that we have been able to create some sort of archive consciousness among our countrymen. A number of learned societies and institutions including universities have taken steps to develop their holdings of records into regular archives. The owners of private archives have for the first time been made aware of their moral responsibility to their archival assets. It is through the mechanism of the Regional Survey Committees that it has been possible to undertake a comprehensive survey of private collections scattered all over the country. Many collections have thus been rescued from oblivion and saved for the scientific interpretation of our past.

"The past of our country, as you know better than I do, dates back to remote antiquity but it is an irony of history that only a fraction of historical records have come down to us. The regular series of our records go back to a little more than a couple of centuries. The Mughal Government, has been described as *Kaghazi raj* or paper government by no less a person than the late lamented Sir Jadunath Sarkar, the doyen of Indian historians; but what has happened to the Mughal archives is a mystery which has not yet been solved. Some fragments of the Imperial Mughal archives are in the National Archives of India while those relating to the provincial administration of the Mughals are preserved in the Archives of Andhra Pradesh. Similarly some fragments of the archives of the Rajput Princes have been assembled together in the Rajasthan State Archives while those of the Peshwas are preserved at Poona. This, however, is but a fraction of the totality of our recorded past. May I take this opportunity to request the historians and archivists assembled here to renew their efforts to salvage and preserve the past of our country in every possible way?

"This brings me to another project of acquisition of records of Indian interest found in foreign countries. The National Archives have acquired a fairly large number of microfilms of such records from the India Office, the British Museum, and the Public Record Office in London, the Dutch State Archives at the Hague, the Bibliotheque Nationales and Archives Nationales of Paris and the Vatican Archives in Rome. The time has now come for us to turn our attention to our neighbouring countries in Asia and Africa with whom we have had centuries old commercial, cultural and political ties. I am sure if systematic efforts are made we will find materials of Indian interest in the public and private collections in Nepal, Bhutan, Burma, China, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Arabia, Syria, Egypt etc. It is true that printed catalogues and reference media of such collections are not readily available, but may I suggest that the good offices of the Corresponding Members of the

Commission in these countries be utilised for collection of data. The collection of such microfilms when completed will convert the National Archives into a unique research centre in this vast sub-continent.

"These are some of the means by which we can salvage and preserve the historical heritage which has been bequeathed to us by our forebears. Closely connected with the use of this rich heritage of source materials is the question of access to records. As you know the portals of the Central Archives were for the first time thrown open to research in 1940. This measure further liberalised in 1947 and reinforced by similar measures taken by the State Archives had the same effects on historical research in our country as the opening of the Vatican Archives and of the Public Record Office had on historical studies in Europe. As you are aware all public records older than forty years in the National Archives have been thrown open for research. I hasten to add that the question of further liberalisation of the rules regarding access to records is under the active consideration of the Government in consonance with the practice prevailing in other advanced countries.

"Simple access to records is not enough. For scientific quarrying among the millions of records it is absolutely necessary that the historian's work should be facilitated by the archivists who should prepare accurate and comprehensive reference media such as guides, descriptive lists, and calendars. These are the basic tools of research which are a prime necessity for all scholars. Government is alive to the importance of these tasks and has been doing everything possible for achieving these, but, as you are aware, the acute financial difficulties through which our country is passing at the moment may prevent us from carrying out all that is intended. Let me assure you, however, that we will not spare any effort to achieve what is possible in the present circumstances and to expand our publication programme as soon as conditions improve. I know that our Director of Archives is striving hard to keep up the tempo of this work.

"These are some of the developments in the field of archives. It is evident that modern methods of archive-keeping have been introduced and considerable progress has been made in organising the rich store-house of manuscript materials for the use of the historian. But how is the historian using these materials? What vision of the past emerges from the scientific interpretation of records and the use of historical insight? Has the historical spirit, with all its power of discrimination, its intensely humanistic outlook and its keen sense of wonder, entered the mind of contemporary India?

"It is not easy to answer these questions. In a way all over the world there has been a recession from the pursuit of history as a discipline of the mind and as a cultivation of the sensibilities, in spite of the fact that the scientific tools of the historian have been improved immensely and the source materials are larger than ever, more varied and better organised. Our age has

also seen some bold and imaginative experiments such as the writings of Arnold Toynbee on the rise and fall of civilisations and the Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind prepared by an International Commission of historians established by UNESCO. Despite these significant portents we continue to live in the fragmentation of knowledge and activities and without that synthetic vision of human affairs which the study of history engenders. The pursuit of Science and Technology and their application to the process of economic development tend to become the supreme objectives of contemporary society.

"Today, more than ever before, man needs to be guided by the historical spirit in knowing the truth about himself and the world around, in the search for solutions to social problems, and in the achieving of that sense of perspective and objectivity without which we may be submerged in a sea of confusion and perplexity. To discover his own identity in the midst of terrific flux and movement, man needs the historical spirit to guide him. The past holds the key to the understanding of the most baffling and crucial problems faced by society. It is strange that the newly independent countries, that are the so-called developing societies, tend to neglect the study of history which they need to shape a better future and a new design of living for their peoples, based on a deeper understanding of the past and also the realities of the present as it has evolved out of the past.

"In our own country we have to accord high priority to historical research, to a scientific re-interpretation of the past, and to the presentation of historical events and forces in a lucid, meaningful and attractive manner. If history is the soul of nationalism, we need to popularise its study and give due importance to it in the educational curriculum at all levels in order to promote national integration and a feeling of pride in belonging to the Culture and Civilisation of India. To understand truly the difficult and seemingly intractable problems of today we have to dig into their past and penetrate to their very roots in order to charter the way ahead. Today when man has, for the first time in human history, the possibility of directing consciously his own evolution, the relevance of history is of the greatest importance to human growth and social engineering.

"The study of history must, however, be related to the needs and urges of the present day, and not merely continued in the old and outmoded pattern inherited from the days of subjection to foreign rule. In striking new lines of investigation and developing new modes of thought, the departments of history at our universities must give a dynamic and purposeful lead, and they should be encouraged and assisted in this task. Too often it is left to foreign scholars to make such innovations and it has not been easy to shake off the inertia and traditions of the past.



Shri K. D. Bhargava

“The re-interpretation of Indian history requires many new initiatives and the task is of immense scope and dimensions. We have to correct mistakes and misrepresentations, review the accepted versions, fill the gaps and add to existing knowledge. Patches of knowledge have to be fitted into the larger picture and isolated facts must be made meaningful in their proper context. Above all, the history of India must be the record of the conditions, strivings and achievements of the Indian peoples, and not merely, as it has been the story of the fortunes of its rulers, of the sound and fury of the top layers of society signifying little of the deep currents surging the masses and really determining the process of change. In particular the history of our freedom movement and the transition from feudal to modern society have to be studied in this way and from a new standpoint.

“In this double task of preserving and augmenting the records concerning political, economic, social and cultural life of our peoples and the effective use of these witnesses of the past in reconstructing a truer and more comprehensive history of our country, the Indian Historical Records Commission has a leading role to play. For discharging this great responsibility the Commission is entitled to the support of Government, the universities and the appropriate learned and cultural bodies in India and abroad. I have every hope that the Commission, meeting as it does after a long interval of time, will give its attention to new needs and developments in the fields of its interest, establish priorities, and contribute to the formulation of a national programme of promoting historical studies.”

#### Secretary's Report

After the Presidential Address, Shri K. D. Bhargava, Secretary to the Commission, presented the following report :

“Mr. President, Members of the Commission, Ladies and Gentlemen: This is the first time that the Secretary's Report is being submitted to the Commission covering the major developments in Archives both at the Centre and in the States. This has become necessary under the new constitution of the Commission where a specific provision exists to this effect. As members are aware, in earlier years, a report on the development programme of the National Archives was being placed before the Commission, but the Secretary's Report would now be covering a wider area of archival activities in the country.

“Before I take up this review, I would like to refer to the Report of the Committee on Archival Legislation presided over by Dr. Tara Chand, the eminent historian. The report was submitted in December 1960 and was circulated to all the Departments of the Government of India and the State Governments. It is undoubtedly a great landmark in the archival history of the country and I am glad to report that most of its recommendations

have been accepted by the Government of India. I would in particular refer to the liberalisation of the rules governing access to the records of the Government of India in some important respects. In the light of the Committee's recommendations, the Ministry of Home Affairs has adopted the thirty-years rule in place of the existing forty-years rule in respect of 'open' records and the Ministry of External Affairs has thrown open the records of the sensitive areas such as Gilgit, Chitral, etc., up to 31 December 1913, the previous limit being 1900. The question of further liberalisation on the lines of the Committee's recommendations is under active consideration. Again, it has now been accepted that all the 25-year-old records should be transferred to the National Archives, and a Retention Schedule to guide in the weeding of records has been framed in respect of matters common to all Ministries. There would be a two stage review, once at the end of 5 years and again at the end of 25 years. At the first stage, the responsibility for review is entirely that of the administrative unit, and at the second stage, the review is jointly by the administrative unit and the National Archives of India.

"It is true that a major recommendation of the Committee has not been accepted, viz., the abolition of the Indian Historical Records Commission and the creation of the Archival Council. While the Government felt that the Commission should be reconstituted it has taken care to see that there is no over-lapping with the activities of the Indian History Congress, to which the Committee has objected. I am sure you will all welcome the steps taken by the Government in this regard. As regards the creation of an Archival Council as recommended by the Committee, the Government of India is of the view that most of the important functions envisaged for the proposed Council can very well be performed by the Indian Historical Records Commission and the National Committee of Archivists put together. The question of enacting a suitable Archival Law as envisaged by the Tara Chand Committee is, however, under the active consideration of the Government and I hope it will be possible for them to take a final decision on this important matter at an early date. In a number of cases, financial and administrative difficulties have stood in the way of giving effect to the recommendations of the Committee duly accepted by the Government of India. I would, however, like to make it clear that the Committee's report is and will be the basis for constructive thinking on the subject of archives and would serve as the beacon light for a long time to come.

"Let me now present a brief survey of the developments, both at the Centre and in the States, since the Commission met last at Chandigarh in 1961. As regards the general conditions governing our activities, lack of funds and paucity of foreign exchange, even for essential work, has hindered progress, both in the case of the National Archives and most of the State Archives Departments. It is, therefore, not surprising that the progress appears to have been somewhat slow in Kerala, Orissa and Assam, and no

organised Record Office has still come up in Mysore, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. It is, however, heartening to note that adequate funds were placed at the disposal of the State Archives Departments in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan, and these new entrants in the field of archives are straining every nerve to make up the leeway and make a good start.

*“Archival Buildings :* A major problem both at the Centre and in the States is one of providing buildings, both suitable for permanent preservation of records and also commodious to house all records ripe enough to be retired according to well-accepted archival principles. As is known to the members, the National Archives is in urgent need of additional accommodation to house incoming records. As reported to the Commission at its last session, budgetary provision for an Annexe had been made under the Third Five Year Plan, but the work was not taken up since the question of location presented certain difficulties. In August this year, the concerned Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Works & Housing has recommended that the Department's need for additional accommodation should be met by erecting a new building in the Institutional Area near Hauz Khas, New Delhi.

“Among the States, Andhra Pradesh has given a lead to others by providing a building for the State Archives under the Third Plan at a cost of about Rs. 15 lakhs. In Rajasthan too, adequate funds were provided under the Third Plan for the construction of 3 additional stack rooms and a research wing consisting of seven rooms. Orissa is expected to start construction work on a building for archives this year. The need for additional accommodation is felt acutely by a number of other States: in Maharashtra, the Secretariat Record Room has not been receiving Departmental records since 1956; in Punjab post-1947 records could not be accommodated. Only Maharashtra and Bihar have reported that the question of providing a building is under the active consideration of the respective Governments. What has to be realised is that a provision for a commodious, centralised archives relieves congestion in the Departmental record rooms. If an over-all view is taken, the money spent on building to provide for it would not be an additional burden.

*“Accessions—Public Records:* For want of space the National Archives has been obliged to refrain from taking in public records which are ripe for retirement on a large scale. There have been, however, some important accessions : 33 files (1864-1954) received from Collectors of Customs (Madras and Calcutta) and 179 boxes of cancelled securities and registers (1785-1865) received from the Reserve Bank of India, Calcutta, and about 24,000 sheets of Village Plans (Revenue) of different Provinces, from mid-19th century to early 20th century, received from the Survey of India, Dehra Dun. The Department has also received 296 reels of microfilm copies of Crown Representative records and Residency files from the India Office

Library, London. Apart from the normal accruals of official records, there have also been significant addition of old time records in some States, especially those of the courts of law; the records of Travancore Sadr Court (1795-1938) and the Principal Munsif's Court, Quilon (1835-54); the records of the Mayor's Court, Recorder's Court, etc. (1792-1896) and the Chitnisi records of the Sangli Raja (1800-50) in Maharashtra and the non-current records of the Administrator General and Official Trustee, Madras (1803-61) and the records of the Madras High Court (1801-61). In Rajasthan, integration of the records of the erstwhile Princely States has been effected and the State Archives have now all the Secretariat records of those States up to 1949, including papers going back to the 17th century.

"As regards official records other than State records, *e.g.*, Municipal and Local Board records, Collectorate records and Court records, a well-thought-out, clear-cut, policy is yet to be evolved in most of the States. It is, however, heartening to note that in Rajasthan this group of records has been transferred to the State Archives in respect of the erstwhile Princely States. In Bihar, it is the general policy to retire to the State Archives 50-year-old records of the District Boards and so far the records of four Districts have been so transferred. In Andhra Pradesh, very recently the State Government has issued orders that District records of 1857-1930 should be centralised in the State Archives.

"*Private Archives* : The National Archives has acquired in the last five years quite a few important papers and we are grateful to those who have donated them. The sizeable collections acquired are the following :—

| <i>Collection</i>               | <i>Donor</i>  |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Badruddeen Tyabji               | Shri Husain B. Tyabji, Bombay.  |
| Dadabhai Naoroji                | Dadabhai Naoroji Memorial Prize, Bombay.  |
| Gopal Krishna Gokhale           | Servants of India Society, Poona.   |
| Dr M. R. Jayakar                | Dr. D. R. Gadgil and other Executors of Jayakar's Will, Poona.  |
| Purushottamdas Tandon           | Servants of the People Society, New Delhi.  |
| Justice V. KrishnaSwami Aiyer   | Shri K. Chandrashekharan, Madras.   |
| Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyer       | Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri on behalf of the Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyer, Educational Charities, Madras. |
| Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri | Shri P. Kodanda Rao, Bangalore.   |
| Maulana Abul Kalam Azad         | Shri Ajmal Khan, New Delhi.   |



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| Papers of the United Services Club,<br>Simla | A. F. Fergusson & Co., Chartered<br>Accountants, New Delhi. |
| Dr. N. B. Khare                              | Donated by Dr. Khare.                                       |
| Inayat Jung Collection                       | Purchased from Nawab Inayat Jung<br>of Hyderabad.           |

"Of these the Jayakar Collection is the most outstanding. It comprises 1099 files of correspondence, 53 diaries, a large number of miscellaneous papers and 248 volumes of newspaper clippings. Equally important is the Inayat Jung Collection, consisting of more than 1,30,000 documents which form an invaluable source material for the history of the Mughal administration in the Deccan during the 17th-18th centuries. The papers of Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyer and Purushottamdas Tandon are other quite big and important collections we have received.

"Another major collection of the Department is of the papers of Mahatma Gandhi, deposited from time to time by the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi. Papers of value have also been received from the Rajkot Records Office covering the school days of Gandhiji.

"In the States a number of private papers have been acquired. It is worthy of special mention that State Archives of Andhra Pradesh has decided to take over the voluminous records of the Salar Jung family covering the period from 1790 to the present day and a portion has been already transferred to it.

*"Microfilm Copies of Records received from Outside Repositories :* Acquisition of microfilm copies of private papers of Indian interest in foreign countries has been greatly hampered owing to shortage of foreign exchange. However, during the period under review, 467 rolls of microfilm copies were acquired. These include the papers of Lord Dufferin (1884-88), Sir John Lawrence (1864-69), Lord Curzon (1899-1905), Earl of Salisbury (1874-78), Sir Henry Fowler (1894-95), Duke of Argyll (1864-74) and Viscount Morley (1905-10) from the India Office Library, London; Dalhousie Papers (1848-56) from the Scottish Records Office, Edinburgh; Papers of Lord Minto II (1905-10) from the National Library of Scotland; the papers of Lord Mayo (1869-72) and Sir James Fitzjames Stephens (1866-72) from the Cambridge University Library, Cambridge; the papers of Sir Austen Chamberlain (1915-17) from the Birmingham University Library, Birmingham; and the papers of Lord William Bentinck (1828-35) from the Nottingham University Library, Nottingham. Copies of the papers of Lord George Hamilton (1895-1903) and Marquis of Lansdowne were obtained from the Delhi University, the negatives having been acquired by the University from the India Office Library. The National Archives has also acquired further records of the Dutch East India Company (1759-96)

from Algemeen Rijksarchief, the Hague, which complete its programme of acquiring copies of Dutch records of the 17th and 18th centuries.

"Further, the Department has received a few gifts of microfilm copies. Mention may be made of the Indian Section of the Hardinge Papers from the McGill University, Canada, and certain papers relating to India from the Bibliotheca Vaticana. The British Council has very kindly offered to donate microfilm copies of the Cowan Papers at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland and select items of the Colchester Papers at the Public Record Office, London.

"*Finding Aids* : Checking and arrangement of public records and private papers have proceeded smoothly, and particular attention is being paid to compilation of reference aids both at the Centre and in the States. As regards the National Archives, I would like to mention that a catalogue of the Survey of India Historical Maps (mostly manuscript) 1700-1900, numbering about 10,000, has been got ready and is expected to be published at an early date. In respect to Persian records, the several volumes of *Alqabnama* (titles used by nobles and potentates), which form part of the Foreign Miscellaneous records of the Department, have been indexed, and the volume is expected to be published in due course. Again, a detailed catalogue of seals found on original Persian Letters among the records of the East India Company is being compiled.

"*Publications* : As regards the publications of the National Archives, I may mention that of the 21 volumes of the *Fort William-India House Correspondence* to be published under Scheme I of its publication programme, 9 volumes have been published in all, including Volume IV edited by late Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari and Volume XV edited by Prof. C. H. Phillips and Dr. B. B. Misra. Volumes III, VII, XX and XXI are under print.

"Under Scheme III(A): Records in Oriental languages, as reported earlier, the letters in Bengali, Sanskrit and Telugu and Volume I of *Hindi Letters* have been published. *Persian Akhbars*, edited by Dr. P. Saran and being published by the Delhi University, is in the Press. The Delhi Tamil Sangam has reported that it is going ahead with the work on *Tamil Letters* appointing new editors. It is, however, regretted that the publication of *Marathi Letters* entrusted to the Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona, has made no further progress; while the letters were printed a couple of years ago, notes, introduction etc. have yet to be prepared. Again, the transcripts of the *Hindi Letters* of Volume II have been lost by the Editor. Dr. M. L. Sharma. A fresh copy has to be prepared before the editing of the volume could be resumed.

“Under Scheme III (B): Selections from English Records, *Elphinstone Correspondence* (1804-08), edited by Dr. R. M. Sinha and Dr. A. Avasthi, and *Selections from Ochterlony Papers* (1818-25), edited by Dr. N. K. Sinha and Dr. A. K. Das Gupta, was published by the Nagpur University and the Calcutta University in 1961 and 1964 respectively. The only remaining volume awaiting publication under this scheme, *News Letters*, 1839-42, is being edited by Shri P. D. Varma and Dr. S. P. Sangar and would be published by the Panjab University.

“As regards the publication of *Selections from the Educational Records of the Government of India*, the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) recommended that the work should be taken out of the hands of the Department and entrusted to an appropriate Branch of the Ministry of Education or any other suitable institution. The Government of India, however, decided that the National Archives of India should continue to be in charge of the scheme. The following volumes were issued during the period under review:

- (1) *Selections from the Educational Records of the Government of India*, 1859-71, Volume I, 1960.
- (2) *Development of University Education*, 1860-87, Volume II, edited by Shri J. P. Naik, Delhi, 1963.
- (3) *Selections from Educational Records, Part I*, 1781-1839, edited by H. Sharp (reprinted) Delhi, 1965.
- (4) *Selections from Educational Records, Part II*, 1840-1859, edited by J. A. Richey (reprinted) Delhi, 1965.

“On the Persian side, Volume XI (1794-95) of the *Calendar of Persian Correspondence* has been sent to the Press.

“There has also been considerable activity in the States in respect of record publications. I may refer here only to a few important publications : *The Farmans and Sanads of the Deccan Sultans* (1964) from Andhra Pradesh; three volumes of *Public Despatches from England* covering the period 1752-1755 from Madras; *Some Farmans, Parwanas and Sunnads* (ed. Dr. K. K. Datta) and *Select Documents on Mahatma Gandhi in Champaran*, 1917-18 (ed. Dr. B. B. Misra) from Bihar; and *Selections from Peshwa Daftar : New Series : Revival of the Maratha Power*, 1761-72 (ed. Dr. P. M. Joshi) from Maharashtra. *A guide to the Andhra Pradesh State Archives* is in the press. Bombay has a plan of publishing selected handwritings of some notable personalities of Maratha history, with biographical notes, etc.

“*Research* : As regards access to the records in the National Archives, I have stated at the beginning that the question of further liberalising the rules is under active consideration. In the States, all organised Record

Offices permit *bona fide* research students to consult records. There are mostly no restrictions to consult pre-1900 papers, but the rules differ in respect of the records of the subsequent period. On the whole, the range of the 'open' records is much wider in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan than in the other States, roughly approximating to the position at the Centre. Obviously, this is a field in which great variations cannot be reasonably justified, and there is a strong case for inter-State uniformity.

"Members would be glad to know that Andhra Pradesh has instituted 10 full-time and 5 part-time fellowships to encourage research among the State records, and it is also proposing to provide accommodation to research scholars. The latter is a very important step in view of the difficulties experienced by scholars, especially those coming for short periods, to secure suitable lodgings in the major cities of the country. The number of scholars attending the Research Room of the National Archives has greatly increased in recent years. The average per year for the last five years has been about 200 of which as many as 40 are foreigners. Madras has reported that 200 scholars attended the Research Room during the period.

"The National Archives has collected materials for a *Bulletin of Research Theses and Dissertations on Modern Indian History, 1961-66*, from all the Universities and Research Centres, and it will be issued shortly.

"*Training in Archives-Keeping* : Since 1961, 29 persons have taken the Diploma Course in Archives-Keeping conducted by the National Archives—9 private candidates, 13 nominees of the State Archives Departments, 2 nominees of the Government of India Departments, 1 from the University of Jammu and Kashmir, and 1 each from the Government of Malaysia and Nepal under the T.C.M. Colombo Plan. The National Archives also gave short-term training in preservation and photo-duplication to 34 persons. It may be mentioned that a number of private institutions availed of the training facilities : the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, K. M. Institute of Oriental Languages, Agra University, Maulana Azad Library, Aligarh, Oriental Research Institute, Mysore and Sanskrit College, Calcutta. There have been discussions in the National Committee of Archivists on the feasibility of providing training locally in the States, both in records management and preservation.

"*Preservation and Development* : Increasing difficulties in procurement of imported raw materials have very much affected the rehabilitation and photo-duplication programme of the National Archives. The pressure of the Department's own work made it necessary for it to restrict the assistance it has been rendering for years to outside agencies in the matter of repair and rehabilitation of old documents, and work of only 76 institutions, public and private, could be taken up. To meet the needs of other Departments and

Institutions and the public, it is proposed to set up a Repair and Microfilming Centre under the Fourth Plan, and the Commission knows how urgent and important the project is.

“The Commission has been deeply interested in the use of standardised quality materials in the interest of proper preservation. The National Archives has been actively collaborating with the Indian Standards Institution in formulating Standards in matters of interest to archivists, viz., writing and printing paper, inks, book-binding boards and leather, primary elements in the designs of buildings for Archives, code of practice for reinforced binding of library books and periodicals, and code of practice for storage and use of microfilms of permanent value.

“The National Archives has been continuously engaged in a search for indigenous substitutes in cases where we have to depend on imported materials such as hand-made paper, chiffon and tissue paper. On the basis of the suggestions offered by the National Archives, good quality hand-made paper of the required standard specifications has been perfected by the Regional Research Laboratory, C.S.I.R., Hyderabad, and chiffon by the Government Silk Weaving Factory, Srinagar. Experiments on evolving a suitable tissue paper are being carried out at the Hand-made Paper Research Centre, Poona. Use of certain chemical insecticides has sometimes adverse effect on the longevity of records and allied materials. Experiments were conducted with chemical insecticides available in the market, and the results are contained in a paper presented at the meeting of International Council of Museums held in Leningrad in September 1963 : Effect of Clenofix and other common Insecticides on the Durability of Paper. Members, I am sure, would be interested to know that the process of handlamination perfected by the Department in 1953, and known all over as the Indian Process of Lamination, has been adopted as one of the repair techniques in most of the advanced archival institutions of the world. This year a firm in France has marketed a machine based upon our work and named it *India-7*. The process we have evolved is very cheap. Since it would not cost more than Rs. 3,000 it would be particularly useful in small repositories.

“As regards the States, progress in the adoption of scientific methods of preservation of records has largely depended upon the funds made available. Rajasthan has spent over a lakh and a half to acquire preservation and photo-duplication equipment and materials under the Third Plan. Madras has added two fumigation cabinets. Uttar Pradesh has a good photographic laboratory. Most of the States are taking primary steps in respect of preservation. A detailed survey would be necessary to assess the progress made.

“*National Register of Archives*: The scheme for a survey of archives of historical value in the possession of private individuals and institutions was

launched in 1959. As the members know, the State Governments are given a grant-in-aid of Rs. 3,000 a year by the Centre. So far, a sum of Rs. 1.31 lakhs has been paid since 1961 and survey lists are being submitted periodically by the States to the National Archives. In a number of States, Regional Records Survey Committees have been constituted and they are co-operating in this work. I would like to refer particularly to the very fine work done in Bihar under the leadership of Dr. K. K. Datta and Prof. Askari, and also in Madras, Mysore and Rajasthan. Larger funds would have to be provided if there is to be significant progress in all the States.

*“International Co-operation:* Under the Indo-Soviet Cultural Exchange Programme, Dr. N. K. Sinha and Director of Archives visited U.S.S.R. during March 1964. The delegation visited Moscow, Leningrad, Erivan, Tashkent and Samarkand. In the Archives of the U.S.S.R., a sizable number of documents were discovered throwing fresh light on some aspects of modern Indian history. Particularly valuable are the records relating to trade between India and U.S.S.R. during 17th-19th centuries. Two volumes covering this period have already been brought out. Microfilm copies of some of the documents of Indian interest have been acquired for custody in the National Archives. The Director of Archives attended the Extraordinary Congress of the International Council on Archives in May this year. The Congress discussed *inter-alia* liberalisation of rules governing access to records and documentary publication programme. Such visits are helpful in understanding problems common to Archivists the world over.

*“Learned Institutions :* The learned institutions engaged in historical research and represented on the Commission have their own archival collections, big or small, and scholars have access to them. Descriptive lists, calendars and *in extenso* reproductions are given in the Journals of the respective institutions—the *Samshodhak* of the Rajwade Samshodhan Mandal, the *Indica* of the Heras Institute of Indian History and Culture, etc. The Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Poona, is engaged in bringing out a volume on Haripant Phadke, the civil and military assistant of Nana Phadnis. It is also planning to bring out similar volumes on the Patwardhans, Gaikwads, Holkars and Shindes. Some important acquisitions by the learned institutions have also been reported : the papers of Jayaprakash Narain, the papers of the Indian League of America and 8 microfilm rolls of Hodgson Papers by the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi; the papers of the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress by the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi; and the Tilouthu Raj Family Papers by the K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute, Patna.

*“Concluding Remarks :* In concluding this survey of the developments since the Commission met last in 1961, I venture to offer a few remarks as

to what our programme for the immediate future should be. In view of the tight financial position, no suggestion involving heavy expenditure is likely to be accepted by the Government. There are no doubt matters on which it is most unwise to go slow; but there is also much that can be done which requires planning and proper direction and not money. I would like to refer here only to three points which, in my view, require immediate attention :

- (1) Evolving of a proper system of Record Management, right from the time a file is opened, to ensure that the flow of permanent records to central archival repositories is smooth and in the right direction.
- (2) Clearing up of the large accumulations, sometimes going back to more than hundred years, in the record rooms of the State Departments, Municipal and Local Boards, Courts of Law, etc. It is yet to be realised by our administrators that weeding of records in time is an administrative necessity of the first importance. Monetary outlay on this work, which has to be done now or in the future, would effect great savings in accommodation and maintenance staff. In the long run, it would be found that this is a "Measure of Economy", not "Expenditure". Further neglect of this important subject, whether at the Centre or in the States, would lead to loss of very valuable historical materials.
- (3) We hear quite a lot about acquisition of copies of papers of Indian interest in foreign archival repositories. This is no doubt important; but of far greater importance is the survey and acquisition of papers with private institutions and individuals in India. Our study of Indian history during the last two centuries, particularly the earlier half, has been very much lop-sided as we have mostly the views expressed by British civilians and the Government. This can only be corrected by our salvaging the private archives of the country in a thorough, systematic way. In most cases, it is seen that people are not willing to part with their family papers; and as such it is a matter of urgent necessity to take their microfilm copies. For this and other purposes, provision of plentiful supply of raw microfilms at low cost through local manufacturers seems to me to be a matter of national importance. The survey and acquisition of private papers would continue to be slow and halting unless Government are prepared to provide adequate funds for this purpose.

"Thank you for your patient hearing."

## BUSINESS MEETING

On a motion of the Secretary, Mahamahopadhyaya D. V. Potdar was, unanimously voted to the chair, as the President was unavoidably absent.

### I. Motion of condolence

The following Resolution was passed in respect of the demise of the erstwhile members of the Commission who died since its last meeting in 1961 :

Resolution I : *The members of the Indian Historical Records Commission deeply mourn the death of Shri Nirod Bhushan Roy, Dr. Solon J. Buck, Sir Charles Hilary Jenkinson, Prof. Sita Ram Kohli, Dr. S. N. Sen, Dr. B. A. Saletore, Col. R. H. Phillimore, Prof. Radha Kumud Mukherjee, Sardar K. M. Pannikar, Mahamahopadhyaya Bisheshwarnath Reu, Shri T. S. Shejwalkar and Shri S. Chidambaram.*

### II. Review of action on the earlier Resolutions of the Commission and its Research and Publication Committee

The report of the Secretary on the subject (*vide* Annexure at pp. 63) was taken up for discussion.

With reference to Resolution V of the 35th Session (1960) dealing with microfilming of old Journals and newspapers, Dr. N. K. Sinha observed that the National Library, Calcutta, which had been entrusted with the task, did not have adequate microfilm equipment required for the purpose and steps should be taken to speed up the work.

As regards Resolution II of the 36th Session (1961) recommending that top priority should be given to the construction of an Annexe to the National Archives of India, Dr. N. K. Sinha and other members noted that five years had elapsed since the Resolution was adopted and expressed dissatisfaction at the slow progress made in reaching a decision,

With reference to Resolution V of the 36th Session (1961) on the ownership and location of the Nagpur Residency Records, Dr. N. K. Sinha observed that while the National Archives may be the owner of the records, it was not advisable to shift them to Delhi, and they should be left where they are best used. Shri Khadgawat, Director, Rajasthan State Archives, observed that a number of Residency Records had been transferred by the British to the successor Governments in the Indian States, and a large number of such records had been acquired by the State Archives. He



felt that the position might be the same in other States, and a thorough search should be made for them. He also expressed the view that there should be no strict adherence to the doctrine of provenance, and wanted that the relevant Residency Records and the local State records should be at the same place to facilitate research. This point was supported by Dr. P. M. Joshi. These views were, however, countered by Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad. He observed that the Residency Records were of an all-India character and were part of the records of the Government of India. As a matter of principle, all these should be got to Delhi and not allowed to remain dispersed. Prof. Moraes warned against the danger of breaking a record series while effecting transfer of documents. After further discussion the Chairman suggested that a detailed memorandum on the subject should be submitted to the Commission at its next session by the Secretary.

With reference to Resolution X of the 30th meeting of the Research and Publication Committee (1960) on the editing and publication of the papers of Tipu Sultan, Dr. M. Sheshadri, Director of Archaeology, Government of Mysore, who was present as an observer, stated that the work of collecting the materials was not yet complete, but expressed the hope that the work of editing would be taken up within a year.

### III. Secretary's Report

The Report of the Secretary submitted at the open session was adopted with thanks.

### IV. Resolutions by Members

- (1) Appointment of a Commission to prevent export of antiquities etc. to provide for their purchase

*Resolution by Prof. O. P. Bhatnagar*

Resolved that this meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission recommends the appointment of a Statutory Commission of the Government for disallowing the sale of antiquities and rare materials needed for research purposes to individuals and institutions outside the country.

Resolved further that the Statutory Body be authorised to negotiate the purchase and acquisition of all such materials for preservation in the Archives and funds be placed at the disposal of the Body for such a purpose.

### *Secretary's Note*

On the recommendation of the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960), the question of suitably amending the Antiquities (Export Control) Act, 1947, is engaging the active attention of the Government of India. Further, the National Archives of India and State Archives Departments have been acquiring through purchase and gift records of value.

### *Proceedings*

On Prof. Bhatnagar's resolution regarding the preservation of archival and antiquarian materials in India and the prevention of their sale abroad, discussion elicited the scepticism of some members regarding the effectiveness of statutory restrictions. It was felt, however, that the proposals of the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) should be reiterated and the following resolution was adopted unanimously :

*Resolution II : The Commission expresses its keen sense of disappointment at the inadequacy of the steps taken so far to prevent migration of archives and other materials of historical and cultural value to foreign countries on the lines recommended by the Committee on Archival Legislation and resolved that the Government of India be requested to give effect to the Committee's proposals urgently.*

*Being of the view that development of a good internal market for such materials is essential to prevent their being smuggled out of the country and as their acquisition and preservation is a matter of national importance, the Commission further resolves to recommend to the State Governments that Statutory Bodies be set up, wherever they are not already constituted, to negotiate their acquisition and purchase, where necessary, on behalf of the Government and that adequate funds be placed at their disposal for the purpose.*

*In view of the limited financial resources of the State Governments, the Commission further resolves that the Government of India be requested to give the States adequate grants-in-aid to achieve the object in view.*

- (2) Appointment of a Committee to formulate a plan for the survey and cataloguing of non-Persian records and for the acquisition of the records of business houses, etc.

### *Recommendation by Dr. P. Saran*

1. Attention is invited to the urgent importance of surveying and cataloguing of non-Persian sources of Medieval Indian History which so far

have received scant attention from scholars of history. Steps, therefore, should be taken to start the survey referred to above as early as possible.

2. Equally important is the acquiring of

- (a) Records in private possession, specially old business houses such as, for instance, the Bimawala houses of U.P., Bihar, Bengal, Central India, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- (b) Records maintained by priestly houses of cities like Varanasi, Mathura, Hardwar, Jammu and Matan (Kashmir).
- (c) Records of the canal and other P.W.D. departments.
- (d) Records of the Medical Department, Zoological, Geological and other all-India Surveys. The records of the Archaeological Department are being utilised and those of geodetical survey have been systematically utilised by Col. Phillimore.
- (e) Records of Jain temple libraries and those of the Municipal Boards.
- (f) Records of the former Residencies and Political Agencies which, it is a pity, have been scattered in different places.

3. To constitute a committee to formulate a plan suggesting the ways and means for the fulfilment of the above mentioned objects.

*Secretary's Note*

It may be noted that the proposal covers to some extent the same ground as the National Register scheme in respect of private archives.

On the lapse of paramountcy in 1947, the records of the Residencies and Political Agencies devolved upon the Union Government, and most of them have been transferred to the National Archives of India.

As regards the records of Departments engaged in all-India surveys, the following have already been transferred to the National Archives of India :

(a) Survey of India

- (i) Field Office Correspondence records of the Geodetic Branch, 1865-1899.
- (ii) Revenue Survey Correspondence records, 1823-1864.
- (iii) Departmental Correspondence records, 1775-1894.
- (iv) Annual Revenue Survey reports, 1880-1902.
- (v) Original diaries of Indian explorers, 1866-1886.

- (b) Medical Branch of the Education, Health and Lands Department, 1873-1923.
- (c) Zoological Survey, 1916-1923.
- (d) Archaeological Branch, 1881-1923.
- (e) Geology and Minerals, 1871-1935.
- (f) Public Works Department, 1860-1923.

### *Proceedings*

As regards the recommendations of Dr. P. Saran, objection was raised by some members to the expression "medieval Indian history" without specifying a time-limit, as the Indian Historical Records Commission was only empowered to deal with the period after 1500. Others, including the Chairman, felt that a rigid time-limit might easily lead to the discarding of useful materials in a collection unearthed by the search proposed in the resolution. Finally the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolution III : Being of the view that progress made in the survey and acquisition of records and other materials of historical and cultural value in the hands of private individuals and institutions, especially non-Persian, is inadequate, the Commission resolves that Government of India and the State Governments be requested to strengthen the existing machinery engaged in the work, such as the Regional Records Survey Committees, by provision of adequate funds and such other means.*

*The Commission further resolves that Universities and Learned Institutions be requested to co-operate in the best manner possible to ensure that the proposed survey is carried out rapidly and on right lines.*

### (3) Records of the State Bank of India

#### *Resolution by Dr. S. Nurul Hasan*

The Commission recommends to the Government of India that suitable steps be taken for the preservation of the old records of the State Bank of India (including its predecessors and constituents, such as the Presidency Banks and the Imperial Bank), for their calendaring and for making these available to research scholars.

*Explanatory Note :* The State Bank of India possesses extremely important archival material, going back to the early years of the 19th century. No adequate study of the economic history of the country in the 19th and 20th centuries is possible without the utilisation of the records of the

Bank: About two years ago,\*the Bank took up a project for the preparation of a history of the Bank. This project is likely to be completed by the end of 1966. Presumably after that time, the records would be sent back to the vaults where they were originally kept. Unless steps are taken soon to preserve these records according to the latest scientific technique, the loss may be irreparable. Moreover, these records should be calendared according to the modern methods of referencing and be made available to research workers. The Ministry of Education will have to take up this matter with the State Bank of India, and, if necessary, with the Ministry of Finance.

### *Secretary's Note*

As recommended under para 62(4-5) of the Committee's Report on Archival Legislation (1960), the records of statutory bodies of all-India character and nationalised enterprises and undertakings may be retired to the National Archives for permanent preservation by special arrangement. The National Archives would be happy to receive them, subject to availability of accommodation. The views expressed regarding the old records of the State Bank of India may be communicated to the institutions and the Ministry of Finance. The question of calendaring or descriptive listing would be examined at the appropriate stage.

### *Proceedings*

Prof. N. K. Sinha pointed out the advisability of avoiding the term 'calendar' and using the term 'descriptive listing' as correspondence formed only a small part of the State Banks Records, and most of them consisted of account books. The suggestion was accepted and with other minor amendments the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolution IV : The Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested to take suitable steps for the scientific preservation of the old records of the State Bank of India (including its predecessors such as the Presidency Banks and the Imperial Bank), for preparing their descriptive lists and for making them available to research scholars.*

- (4) Preservation of the materials collected for writing the History of the Freedom Movement in India

### *Resolution by Dr. H. K. Barpujari*

This meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission recommends that materials collected for writing the History of Freedom Movement in

India be kept by the State Governments at their respective Archives or Record Rooms, and that these be thrown open to *bona fide* researchers.

*Explanatory Note* : The materials collected for the History of Freedom Movement are lying at present with the administrative departments of most of the State Governments and are not readily accessible to research students. To carry on research projects like the compilation of the Nationalist Bibliography and for the researches of various aspects of the freedom movement itself, it is desirable that these materials should be made available to *bona fide* researchers. These valuable materials will be better preserved, it can reasonably be hoped, only at the hands of experts like the Directors of Archives or the Keepers of Records of the State Governments.

### *Secretary's Note*

A Resolution to the same effect passed by the Research and Publication Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission in February 1954 was communicated to the Board of Editors for the History of Freedom Movement in India, Government of India, and also to the State Governments. It was accepted by the former and also the States of West Bengal, U.P., Assam, Bihar, Bombay (now Maharashtra), Orissa, Madras and the erstwhile States of PEPSU and Kutch. The Government of Madras qualified its acceptance by stating that access could be given only to those records which were more than 50 years old in accordance with its Research Rules (*vide* I.H.R.C. Progs., Vol. XXXII, Pt. I, p. 39, and Vol. XXXIII, Pt. I, p. 40).

### *Proceedings*

In view of the Secretary's note, Dr. Barpujari withdrew the Resolution, but he wanted the Secretary to ascertain and report to the Commission whether in practice the papers were being deposited in the State Archives and made available to scholars.

### (5) Procurement of the papers of the Indian revolutionaries abroad

#### *Resolution by Dr. H. L. Gupta*

Resolved that to facilitate the study of the role of the Indian Revolutionaries abroad, letters, documents, journals and other original writings relating to them and their associations and movements be procured and preserved at the National Archives of India. A list of the revolutionaries abroad and their movements may also be prepared.

### *Secretary's Note*

The work of tracing letters, documents, journals and other original writings of Indian revolutionaries abroad and also preparing their lists comes within the scope of the activities of the History of the Indian Freedom Movement Unit.

The National Archives of India has been receiving originals and copies of valuable documents relating to Indian revolutionaries and freedom fighters abroad. This year's acquisitions include a collection of the letters of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and others to Mrs. Woods, Secretary, Indian Independence League, Dublin, and the papers of late Virendranath Chattopadhyaya, an Indian Nationalist in Sweden (1917-1921).

### *Proceedings*

In moving the resolution Prof. H. L. Gupta stressed that he did not want this in any way to be a rival to the work of the History of the Freedom Movement project, and he only wanted to ensure the acquisition and preservation of the papers in question. The Commission adopted the following Resolution unanimously :

*Resolution V: To facilitate the study of the role of the Indian revolutionaries abroad, the Commission resolves that letters, documents, journals and other original writings relating to them and their associations and movements be procured and preserved at the National Archives and also a list of the revolutionaries abroad and their movements be prepared.*

(6) Transfer of the records of the Central India Agency to Bhopal

### *Resolution by Dr. H. L. Gupta*

Resolved that in the interest of historical research the Residency Records relating to the former States of Central India, Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand as well as the records of those States and their ruling families be collected, classified and maintained at the Bhopal branch of the National Archives of India.

### *Secretary's Note*

The records of Residencies and Political Agencies have been transferred to the National Archives of India after the lapse of Paramountcy in 1947, and the records of the Central Indian States Agency and the Bundelkhand Agency are in its possession. If the proposal is accepted, there

would be similar requests from other regions<sup>8</sup> and it is not desirable to transfer or disperse the Residency records on a regional basis.

### *Proceedings*

Apropos of the Secretary's note, Prof. H. L. Gupta said that he had only suggested keeping the records in question at Bhopal, as the National Archives of India had a branch office there, especially as there was lack of accommodation at Delhi. Having drawn attention to the problem, he withdrew the resolution with the permission of the Chair.

### (7) Acquisition of the papers of Sir Jadunath Sarkar

#### *Resolution by Dr. Hari Ram Gupta*

The Commission recommends to the Government of India to procure all the original letters that passed between Sir Jadunath Sarkar and Dr. G. S. Sardesai for nearly fifty years from the Punjab University, Chandigarh, to be preserved at the National Archives of India, New Delhi.

*Explanatory Note:* In 1954, the Punjab University approved a scheme of presenting a commemoration volume to Sir Jadunath Sarkar. In 1957 the typescript was arranged and later published in two volumes. The first volume entitled *Life and Letters of Sir Jadunath Sarkar* consists of two sections. The second section comprising 231 pages gives the substance of the Correspondence that passed between Sir Jadunath Sarkar and Dr. G. S. Sardesai from 1907 to 1956.

These letters are several hundred in number. They are written on ordinary paper in the hand of both the historians. Sir Jadunath scrupulously avoided sending typed letters to his friends and pupils. Dr. Sardesai followed the same practice.

All these letters are lying tied in several bundles in one almirah of the Department of History, Punjab University, Chandigarh. There is no satisfactory arrangement for their safety not to speak of their preservation. The colour of the paper is fading, while some of the letters have grown brittle, and break to pieces if not handled with care.

As these letters, mainly dealing with historical problems, form an essential part of this country's national historical literature, they should be immediately acquired by the National Archives, and if demanded their microfilm copies may be supplied to the Punjab University for its record and reference.



### *Secretary's Note*

The Department approached the History Department of the Punjab University in the matter, but no reply was received. The National Archives of India would be happy to receive the original papers and supply micro-film copies, if required.

### *Proceedings*

Prof. H. R. Gupta withdrew the resolution on Prof. Sethi's assurance that the papers had been transferred to the Punjab University Library and they were being well-preserved.

(8) Preservation of cuttings from newspapers etc.

### *Resolution by Shri P. N. Pushp*

Resolved that in the interests of research, important news-cuttings from standard newspapers and periodicals be also maintained as archives record subject, of course, to the usual criteria of archival acquisition.

*Explanatory Note* : Most of the news-items, including reports, appearing in standard newspaper and periodicals from time to time are of great significance for studies in the history of the period. The research scholars, therefore, would be considerably benefited if such significant source-materials also were made available to them in archival repositories. The acquisition of suitable news-cuttings, of course, has to be governed by the same rules and regulations as other records of archival nature.

### *Secretary's Note*

The subject comes within the purview of libraries and not of archival institutions. Newspaper cuttings are not treated as archives, unless they form a part of the official records. In the latter case the relevant extracts or cuttings from newspapers are automatically preserved along with the series of which they form an integral part. Preserving of old newspapers, etc. is covered by Resolution V of the Research and Publication Committee of the Commission at its 30th meeting in July 1960. Attention is invited to the Conspectus in I.H.R.C. Progs., Vol. XXXVI, Pt. I, pp. 37-38 and pp. 67-68.

### *Proceedings*

Shri Pushp withdrew the resolution in the light of the explanation contained in the Secretary's note.

(9) Preservation of newspapers etc. in Goa, Diu and Daman

*Resolutions by Dr. George M. Moraes*

*Resolution (a):* The Commission recommends that the Government of Goa, Diu and Daman be requested to take immediate steps for the preservation of the volumes of all important newspapers and periodicals, and in particular those of the *Heraldo*, a daily of Panjim, and the *Ultramar*, a Weekly of Margao, which have now ceased publication.

*Explanatory Note :* These newspapers are an important source of the history of India in modern times. The *Ultramar*, whose first number appeared on the 6th April 1859, ceased publication quite recently; while the *Heraldo*, whose first number appeared on the 21st May 1908, stopped some time in 1963. The former was for more than six decades the organ of the political party Partido Ultramar, as *India Portuguesa* was the organ of the rival party Partido Indiano, in the Legislative Assembly of Portuguese India during almost a century of constitutional Government ending with the establishment of the dictatorship in Portugal in 1925. The *Heraldo* and the *O Heraldo*, which is still published, were the two important daily newspapers in Goa. Further, these newspapers enshrine the literary remains of the leading lights of the times.

*Resolution (b):* The Commission recommends that the Government of Goa, Diu and Daman be requested to take necessary steps to preserve against the ravages of the weather the portraits of the past Governors-General of Portuguese India, which were displayed in the Audience Hall in the Governor-General's palace, now the Raj Bhavan, in a museum or some other suitable place, as also the Portuguese crest and other similar vestiges of Portuguese rule wherever they may exist from mutilation and destruction.

*Explanatory Note :* The portraits of the Governors-General as also the Portuguese crest and other vestiges of Portuguese rule are relics of the past, and precious historical material for the future historian of India. Furthermore, these works of art were executed by Indian artists, and should, therefore, be preserved as valuable exhibits by local artists.

*Proceedings*

The resolution concerning preservation of portraits was dropped as the subject was beyond the scope of the Commission, and that relating to newspapers and periodicals was adopted as follows :

*Resolution VI: The Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested to take immediate steps for the preservation*

*of the volumes of all important newspapers and periodicals, in particular those of the Heraldo, a daily of Panjim, and the Ultramar, a Weekly of Margao, which have now ceased publication.*

(10) Acquisition of microfilm copies of records from abroad

*Resolution by Dr. Niharranjan Ray*

Whereas there are large quantities of records relating to Indian trade and commerce with Central Asia in the archival repositories and libraries of the Soviet Union, especially in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan; and whereas these records are essential for an understanding of Indian history, this Commission resolves that the Government of India should take immediate steps to negotiate with the Soviet Government for obtaining microfilm copies of these documents.

*Explanatory Note :* The records are mainly in the Persian and Armenian languages and cover a very wide variety of topics. It would be extremely difficult to send adequate numbers of Indian scholars to work on these records in the places where they are located and it would be more economical to obtain microfilm copies. As India has a cultural agreement with the Soviet Union, it should not be difficult to obtain copies of this material.

*Secretary's Note*

Dr. N. K. Sinha and the Director of Archives visited U.S.S.R. in March 1964 under the Indo-Soviet Cultural Exchange Programme and their itinerary covered Archives repositories and libraries at Moscow, Leningrad, Eriyan, Tashkent and Samarkand. A list of papers of Indian interest in these repositories had since been obtained from the Government of U.S.S.R. for getting their microfilm copies.

*Proceedings*

The resolution of Dr. Niharranjan Ray was presented by Prof. Nurul Hasan. Apropos of the Secretary's Note, Prof. N. K. Sinha observed that while copies of official records were being obtained, it should be noted that the private records of traders in Armenia and other areas were as yet untapped. He also drew attention to the rich record collections on Armenian trading activity in the Calcutta and Madras High Courts. While appreciating the work done, the consensus was that the resolution should be adopted as follows :

*Resolution VII : Whereas there are large quantities of records relating to Indian trade and commerce with Central Asia in the*

*Archival repositories and libraries of the Soviet Union, especially in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan, and whereas these records are essential for an understanding of Indian history, the Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested to continue its present endeavours to obtain microfilm copies of all these documents.*

(11) Transfer of the records of the Marathwada Region  
to Maharashtra

*Resolution by Dr. R. S. Gupte*

Resolved that all the Urdu, Persian and Marathi records concerning the region of Marathwada in the State of Maharashtra be handed over by the Andhra Pradesh Government to the Marathwada University or to the State of Maharashtra.

*Explanatory Note :* Marathwada was formerly a part of the old Hyderabad State. Naturally, all the records pertaining to the Marathwada region of the State were collected and kept at Hyderabad. When the old Hyderabad State disappeared the archives concerning Marathwada went to the successor Andhra Pradesh Government.

Since Marathwada has now its own University and a Department of History and Ancient Indian Culture, it is only proper that all the records in the possession of the Andhra Pradesh Archives, whether in Urdu, Persian or Marathi, concerning Marathwada should come to the Marathwada University for study and preservation.

*Secretary's Note*

The question how records of areas acquired by the States under the States' reorganisation measures should be dealt with has been considered in para 78(7) of the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960), and the recommendations of the Committee have been accepted by the Government of India and communicated to the State Governments. It is desirable to follow the recommendations of the Committee in this respect.

*Proceedings*

Dr. Dikshit presented the resolution on behalf of Dr. Gupte and the consensus was against its adoption.

(12) National Register of Private Archives

*Resolution by Shri V. S. Suri*

It is recommended that very early steps be taken by the National Archives of India to bring out bulletins and reports of the National Register of Private Archives for which the Union Government has been

granting financial assistance to the State Governments since 1959-60. The Reports, as far as possible, should be quite comprehensive.

*Explanatory Note :* During the last two decades or so the project for the compilation of the National Register of Records was recommended several times by the Indian Historical Records Commission and its Sub-Committee, the Research and Publication Committee. In 1959-60, the Commission recommended that the project should be limited to private archives only and the Government of India agreed to give financial assistance to the State Governments for this purpose. The National Archives of India was made responsible for the compilation of the Register on the basis of the material supplied to the Department by the various State Governments. It is regretted that even after 7 years of the operation of the scheme not even a single Report or Bulletin has been issued by the National Archives of India with the result that the State Governments who supply the material and the scholars who may need this useful information for their research projects are unable to use this.

#### *Secretary's Note*

Progress in the compilation of the National Register has been unavoidably slow since the Government has not yet found it possible to sanction the staff recommended by National Register Advisory Committee in August 1961, viz., One Registrar in the grade of Rs. 1000-50-1250, four Field Officers in the grade of Rs. 500-30-800 and other junior staff. The staff sanctioned for the purpose at present is only an Assistant Archivist (Gr. I) and one U.D.C., and this is just adequate to attend to routine correspondence, etc. However, the scrutiny of the lists received from the States during 1959-60, is nearing completion and it is hoped that a Report for the year would be issued some time next year.

#### *Proceedings*

The resolution was adopted as follows :

*Resolution VIII : The Commission resolves that very early steps be taken by the National Archives of India to bring out bulletins and reports of the National Register of Private Archives for which the Union Government has been granting financial assistance to the State Governments since 1959-60, and the report should, as far as possible, be quite comprehensive.*

#### (13) Calendaring of non-British records

##### *Resolution by Dr. S. Nurul Hasan*

Recommended to the Government of India and the State Governments to take steps, as early as possible, that the non-British records in their

custody be calendared. Further resolved that the Director of National Archives be requested to report to the Commission the extent to which the recommendations of the Committee appointed by the Research and Publication Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission in 1960 (Resolution IX) were implemented.

*Explanatory Note :* The National Archives and the various Record Offices have, from time to time, undertaken the publication of calendars or texts or summaries of documents of the East India Company and the British Government in India. While the importance of the study of the British records is undeniable, the picture would remain obviously incomplete if the records of other agencies of the same, or the earlier period, are not studied. With the merger of former Princely States and the acquisition of private records, a large mass of non-British documentary material is available. The Commission, having taken into consideration these factors, had passed a resolution and appointed a Committee. The Committee had met and made some recommendations, but before it could conclude its work, the Commission itself was suspended. Some useful work has already been done, but much more remains. It may be useful for the Record Offices to prepare schemes in collaboration with Universities and University scholars.

### *Secretary's Note*

The Resolution passed on the recommendation of the Committee referred to and the action taken thereon are covered in the Conspectus which has been appended (p. 69).

It may be further noted that non-British records of the Princely States have not been transferred to the National Archives of India with the exception of Bhopal, and the Bhopal records would be transferred back to the Madhya Pradesh Government. Two volumes of Descriptive Lists of the Mutiny Papers at the Bhopal Office have been published.

It is presumed that the Resolution covers Portuguese and French records as well, since they are non-British records.

### *Proceedings*

While moving the resolution, Prof. Nurul Hasan observed that by "non-British" records, he had also in view the Portuguese and French Government records, and not merely those of the erstwhile Princely States. In the course of the discussion, it was elicited from the Secretary that the question of inclusion of "Records and Archaeological material" in the proposed Treaty between the Governments of India and France was under consideration. After further discussion, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolution IX : *The Commission resolves that the Government of India and the State Governments be requested to take steps to have suitable descriptive lists prepared as early as possible in respect of the non-British records in their custody.*

(14) Publication of a calendar of the Inayat Jang Collection

*Resolution by Dr. Nurul Hasan*

The Commission recommends that early steps be taken to publish a calendar of the documents in the Inayat Jung Collection of the National Archives. For this purpose a Committee of the following persons be appointed to work out the details :

1. Professor B. P. Saksena, Allahabad.
2. Professor Satish Chandra, Jaipur.
3. Professor Mohibbul Hasan, Jamia Millia.
4. The mover of the Resolution, Aligarh.
5. Director, National Archives (Secretary).

A few years ago, the National Archives acquired an invaluable collection of documents from Hyderabad. Dating from the time of Aurangzeb, these documents contain a wealth of information regarding administrative, political and economic history. Unless a scientific calendar of these documents is published, scholars will find it extremely difficult to utilise this collection. Some of the Universities may be willing to offer their co-operation if a suitable scheme is worked out.

Dr. Satish Chandra has endorsed the proposal made by Dr. S. Nurul Hasan and suggested the inclusion of Shri A. I. Tirmizi, Assistant Director, National Archives of India, as Member-Secretary of the Committee.

*Secretary's Note*

The resolution may be accepted inasmuch as the Inayat Jang Collection constitutes a unique documentary source for the reconstruction of the administrative history of the Deccan during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The collection comprises more than 1,30,000 official records and as such their publication *in extenso* will take several years. Descriptive listing will serve no purpose inasmuch as the interest of the collection lies mainly in details. The only alternative for their publication, therefore, is calendaring which should be as comprehensive as possible.

*Proceedings*

In moving the resolution, Prof. Nurul Hasan observed that the collection was of special importance for the study of economic history, and

preparation of suitable descriptive lists was a matter of urgent necessity. He accepted the suggestion of Prof. Tapan Raychaudhuri that statistical abstracts should be included in the List. The Secretary welcomed the Resolution and the proposal to form a Committee, but stated that the National Archives of India was not in a position to take up the work for want of funds. Shri Bawa stated that Andhra Pradesh State Archives would be happy to take up the work if the records were loaned to them. Shri Khadgawat objected to transfer of original records out of a repository in principle. Prof. Nurul Hasan complained that an earlier request of the Aligarh University for photo-copies of the papers had not been complied with. The Secretary observed that he was not aware of such a request, but he promised to arrange for the supply of photo-copies to the Aligarh University if the request was renewed, the cost of photo-copying being met by the University. After further discussion the following resolution was passed :

*Resolution X : The Commission resolves that early steps be taken to publish suitable descriptive lists and statistical abstracts of the documents in the Inayat Jung Collection of the National Archives, and that for this purpose a Committee of the following persons be appointed to work out the details :*

1. *Prof. B. P. Saksena, Allahabad.*
2. *Prof. Satish Chandra, Jaipur.*
3. *Prof. Mohibbul Hasan, Jamia Millia, Delhi.*
4. *Dr. Nurul Hasan, Aligarh.*
5. *Dr. Irfan Habib, Aligarh.*
6. *Dr. T. Ray Choudhury, Delhi University.*
7. *Mr. B. R. Grover, Jamia Millia, Delhi.*
8. *Shri V. K. Bawa, Hyderabad.*
9. *Shri K. D. Bhargava, Director, National Archives.*
10. *Shri A. I. Tirmizi, Asstt. Director, National Archives.*

*(Member-Secretary)*

#### (15) The Calendar of Persian Correspondence

*Resolution by Prof. S. H. Askari*

Resolved that the original Persian letters, abstracts of which were published in the *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vols. I & II, be published in *extenso* after being properly edited with notes and explanations.

*Explanatory Note :* Extracts and abstracts of original Persian records and correspondence, preserved in the old Imperial Records Department



had been published in Vols. I & II of the *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*. Now these two volumes are out of print. Further extracts or abstracts do not always contain all the necessary contemporary historical events. Consequently it is desirable that the publication of more detailed extracts of the records and letters in their entirety be undertaken by the National Archives of India at an early date.

### *Secretary's Note*

The first two volumes of the *Calendar of Persian Correspondence* cover the period 1759-1769. Of this period no original Persian letters have come down to us with the exception of 96 letters which have already been calendared. The remaining letters have survived in the form of copies, translations and abstracts which have exhaustively been calendared in these volumes. The question of their publication *in extenso*, therefore, does not arise. These volumes could, of course, be reprinted, if there is a demand.

### *Proceedings*

After some discussion, the resolution was amended and adopted as follows :

Resolution XI : *The Commission resolves that the Calendar of Persian Correspondence, Vols. I & II published by the National Archives of India, be reprinted with notes and explanations.*

(16) Preparation of inventories of the records in Rajasthani,  
Persian etc. at Bikaner

### *Resolution by Prof. G. H. Khare*

The Commission recommends that the Government of India in consultation with the Director of the Rajasthan Archives may find out ways to make the State records in Persian, Rajasthani etc. more easily available and useful by preparing a number of inventories either in Hindi or in English and transcribing the Urdu inventories which are already there into Hindi after checking them, so that a greater number of scholars get the opportunity of consulting the records.

*Explanatory Note* : The Rajasthan State has in recent years created an archives repository of their own at Bikaner which has about 80 lakhs of bundles of old records, account books etc. which may contain several crores of separate records. They begin roughly from the 2nd quarter of the 17th century and end with the current times. They are mostly in Persian and Rajasthani. It is in my humble opinion the largest repository in India. During the last two years I have spent 36 days in examining the records in the two languages there and I have come to the conclusion

that they are quite indispensable for writing the history of India in all its aspects. The Rajasthan State and their Director of Archives are trying their level best to make these records available and useful to scholars who go there for examining them. But owing to the incredible vastness of the records, their efforts fall short, I am afraid, to make them more easily and conveniently available to scholars.

*Resolution by Dr. Satish Chandra*

The Commission recommends that early steps be taken to publish calendars of Persian and Rajasthani documents in the State Archives, Bikaner (Rajasthan). Since the publication of these documents is of national importance, financial assistance for the purpose be provided by the Ministry of Education.

*Explanatory Note :* The State Archives, Bikaner, has got lakhs of historical documents. Unless these documents are properly listed and calendars of documents published, it is very difficult for scholars to consult them. The State Archives, Bikaner, has already published a Calendar of *farmans*, *nishans*, *manshurs* etc. All necessary assistance should be provided to the State Archives, Bikaner, by way of special staff, financial grant etc. for expediting this very useful work.

*Secretary's Note*

In this connection, attention is invited to the observations of the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) which has not favoured publication of abridged summaries of records, except in special cases (para 157).

*Proceedings*

The Commission welcomed the proposals made by Prof. G. H. Khare and Dr. Satish Chandra and adopted the following resolution :

*Resolution XII : The Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested, in consultation with the Director of Rajasthan Archives, to take early steps to prepare suitable descriptive lists of State records in Persian, Rajasthani etc. and that the co-operation of individual Universities and learned bodies be also sought in the implementation of the programme.*

*Further, the Commission resolves that the Ministry of Education, Government of India, and the University Grants Commission be requested to provide special funds for the purpose in view of the national importance of the records.*

In the course of the discussion on this resolution, Shri Khadgawat and Dr. R. R. Sethi drew attention to the fact that "Archives" had not been recognised as a Plan item and as such developmental expenditure in respect of it was not being subsidised on a 50 : 50 basis by the Centre, and this

had greatly retarded progress in the States. The Commission felt that "Archives" should become a Plan item and adopted the following resolution :

Resolution XIII : Since "Archives" is not a Plan item under the Five Year Plans and as such developmental expenditure on State Archives Departments is not being subsidized by the Government of India on a 50% basis as in the case of other Plan items, the Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested to make the subject a Plan item to ensure proper growth and development of the State Archives, which are seriously handicapped for want of funds.

#### (17) Publication of summaries of documents in the Indian Archives

*Resolution by Shri Anthony D'Costa*

The Commission recommends that a new section be included in *The Indian Archives* for publishing summaries of documents in archival repositories.

*Explanatory Note: The Boletim da Filmoteca Ultramarina Portuguesa* of Lisbon could serve as a sort of model. Some such system might be followed : The Catalogue No. of the Manuscript; the folios on which the document occurs; place and date of the document, with equivalents of the dates according to the modern international calendar; state of preservation of the Manuscript; summary of the contents, indicating whether the document has already been published, or made use of by an author, and more important passages to be quoted in the original.

The members of the Commission and the associates of the learned institutions to which they belong could work on the archives located in their respective regions.

A subject index of the materials thus published could be prepared periodically as a supplement to *The Indian Archives*.

If this suggestion is adopted, the proposed section will soon be a concrete proof of this Commission's activity.

#### *Secretary's Note*

It has been the aim of *The Indian Archives* to publish descriptive notes and articles on interesting untapped source materials, whether located in private or public custody, and the National Archives of India will certainly welcome such articles from the members of the Commission.

*Proceedings*

The proposal was withdrawn in the light of the Secretary's Note.

- (18) Publication of the microfilm copies of the papers obtained from abroad

*Recommendation by Dr. Sukumar Bhattacharya*

I suggest that the microfilm copies of the papers relating to the administration of some of the Governors-General and other public men in the 19th and 20th centuries which have been obtained in the National Archives of India may be got printed so that they may be more easily made available to the scholars working on the history of this period.

*Secretary's Note*

In view of their bulk, copyright considerations etc. it may not be practicable to take up their *in extenso* publication. We may, however, develop inter-library loan of microfilm copies, taking positive prints of the collection. Even here, progress has to be slow in view of the difficulty of getting raw film.

- (19) Supply of typescript copies of microfilm to scholars

*Resolution by Dr. Sukumar Bhattacharya*

The microfilmed copies of the historical documents, particularly the correspondence of the Governors-General, Cabinet Ministers of Britain and other high personages, which have been brought to the National Archives of India during recent years, may be made available to scholars in the Reading Room of the Archives in typed sheets so that they may be used by the scholars without much strain on their eyes.

*Secretary's Note*

The cost involved is such that it would be very difficult to implement the suggestion for the time being.

*Proceedings*

After discussion of Items 18 and 19, the proposals were dropped. However, as suggested by Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad, it was considered desirable to instal a Xerox Machine in the National Archives of India, and the following resolution was adopted :

Resolution XIV : *Since Scholars conducting research are greatly handicapped in the matter of getting copies of documents without delay and at reasonable cost, the Commission resolves that the National Archives of India be requested to instal a Xerox Machine of a suitable type at an early date.*

(20) Publication of certain records relating to Punjab

*Resolution by Principal Sri Ram Sharma*

The Commission recommends the publication of the records of official and demi-official correspondence between the Government of India and the Government of the Punjab and that between the Governor-General in Council and Secretary of State, and also private letters of the Governor-General and Secretary of State in the first decade of the twentieth century.

*Secretary's Note*

It may be noted that the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) has not favoured *in extenso* publication of records except in respect of "such special collections as may relate to a phase of history of which there is at present little or no knowledge, or may reflect a period for which few authorities exist, or to documents which once printed would continue to be read for their intrinsic worth by a wide public and not merely by a limited class of readers." (Para 157).

It may also be mentioned that the Punjab State Archives have been acquiring microfilm copies of a good number of records relating to Punjab and contiguous areas from the National Archives of India.

*Proceedings*

The proposal was not accepted.

(21) Publication of Mughal Akhbarats

*Resolution by Dr. Ganda Singh*

It is proposed that the Rajasthan Government be requested to make early arrangements for the publication of the original newsletters of Mubhal court—*Akhbarat Darbar-i-Mualla*—preserved in the Rajasthan State Archives, Bikaner. In case the State Government for reasons not within their control are not in a position to undertake the publication of the *Akhbarat*, it may be taken up by the National Archives of India.

It is further proposed that the National Archives of India be requested to approach Maharaj Kumar Raghubir Singh of Sitamau to make available

to them photostat copies of the *Akhbarat* in his possession with a view to publishing them for the benefit of historical research.

The *Akhbarat*, both at Bikaner and Sitamau, should be published in original, with introduction, notes and analytical index in English.

*Explanatory Note* : The Rajasthan State Archives at Bikaner has in its possession original newsletters of Mughal Court during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. They are a mine of historical information and their publication will place in the hands of the students and scholars of Indian History original source material for purposes of research.

Maharaj Kumar Dr. Raghbir Singh of Sitamau has also in his library a rich collection of Newsletters of the Mughal Court collected from various sources. Their publication is equally essential for research in Indian History.

### *Proceedings*

Prof. Sherwani suggested that the proposal should include other *Akhbarats* also, and the resolution duly amended was adopted as follows :

*Resolution XV : The Commission resolves that steps be taken to publish the Akhbarat Darbar-i-Mualla and other similar Akhbarats, in original or in translation (in extenso or in a summary form) and for this purpose the co-operation of the Universities interested in such a programme be invited.*

*Further the Commission resolves that the University Grants Commission be requested to give financial support to the Universities co-operating with this project.*

### (22) Implementation of the recommendations of the Tara Chand Committee

#### *Resolution by Shri S. C. De*

Resolved that early steps be taken for implementing the recommendations of the Committee set up in 1959 by the Government of India for Archival Legislation.

*Explanatory Note* : In the present state, the development of Archives in different States needs Archival Legislation for systematising and bringing about uniformity in the archival activities in the States and Centre. Unless there are laws regulating flow of records to the Archives, arrangement, classification, preservation, weeding, etc. systematic development of Archives will not be possible. It is for this reason that Archival Legislation is urgently and indispensably necessary. Since the records are the

main instrument of administration and are also most authentic sources of modern history, their preservation under the modern scientific methods and their utilization for both administrative and research purposes are absolutely necessary in the interest of administration and culture. But in actual practice the records, despite their importance, are generally neglected. Hence Archival Legislation for preservation and proper utilization of the official records is extremely necessary and in view of this, Government of India may be moved for taking up the question immediately. In the meantime the Indian Historical Records Commission may strongly recommend the main recommendation of the Committee for adoption by the Central and State Governments.

A similar proposal has also been received from Shri P. N. Pushp.

#### *Secretary's Note*

The subject has been covered by the Secretary's Report.

#### *Proceedings*

After some discussion, the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolution XVI : While expressing its gratitude to the Government for reconstituting the Indian Historical Records Commission, the Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested to take early steps for implementing the recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation.*

### (23) Access to Archives

#### *Resolution by Dr. N. K. Sinha*

This Commission recommends to State Governments that the liberal rules regulating access of research workers to historical records should be liberally interpreted. The State Archives and district record offices should do everything to facilitate research and not hamper research workers.

*Explanatory Note :* A lecturer in history of the Government College, Krishnagar, was given permission to see district records of the period 1784-1833. He copied significant extracts from records and was permitted to take his notes with him. He published a research article based on these notes in the research journal *Bengal: Past and Present*. He sent an off-print of his paper to the District Record Office. He then received a letter from the Additional District Magistrate which might be described as a show cause notice. He was charged with publishing an article without the permission of the district authorities. He was told that permission

granted to him to work in the record office was withdrawn. He had great difficulty in settling this matter. But we do not know exactly where we stand. All that a record office can demand is that the notes should be utilised only for research publication.

A college teacher, who is also a research worker, wanted permission sometime ago to see old historical records in the Hooghly District Record Office. He was told "you are requested to renew your prayer when the emergency is over."

A professor of history of the Presidency College, Calcutta, who was also a teacher in the post-graduate department of the University, went to Madras to work in the record office at Egmore in September, 1964. He worked there for a month. I had asked him to make a list of Dutch records transferred from Calcutta to Madras in accordance with a resolution of the Commission in 1929. He prepared a descriptive list for me in which I found that serial 1734—vernacular letters, serial 1724—legal vernacular documents (1801-1807), serial 1709—register of court cases in Indian languages (1823-24), and serial 1729—court cases letters and account books (1772-1818) are *not* vernacular letters. Serial 1734 is in Armenian. The rest are English and Dutch documents. I wrote to the record office at Egmore that I would like to have copies of these documents on payment of usual charges. I was informed that these letters could not be traced. I have the list with me. I am sure the scholar concerned, who is now in Oxford as a Research Fellow in St. Anthony's College, did not prepare an imaginary list for me. It is not possible for me to go to Madras to prove that these records are there.

Dr. Fischel of the U.S.A. worked in the Madras Record Office for some time to collect materials for his history of the Jews in the 18th century. He saw some references to a valuable document just outside his period, which threw some light on the Jews in the 18th century in Madras. He wanted permission to see this document. He told me that he had to count the waves on the Madras sea beach for some days before he could get any reply. Permission could have been granted immediately.

*Resolutions by Dr. S. P. Sen*

*Resolution (a)*

The Indian Historical Records Commission requests the Government of India and the State Governments to introduce uniform rules all over India in the matter of accessibility of records to *bona fide* research workers.

*Explanatory Note* : At present the rules differ very widely from State to State. This is most undesirable and uniformity of practice should be introduced.



### *Resolution (b)*

The Indian Historical Records Commission requests the Government of India and the State Governments to introduce a more expeditious machinery for scrutinising extracts from records submitted by research workers, whenever the rules require scrutiny by the Ministry or Department concerned.

*Explanatory Note :* At present the scrutiny often takes an unduly long time from six months to a year, unnecessarily holding up the work of research students.

### *Resolution by Dr. S. Nurul Hasan*

The Commission recommends to the Government of India and the State Governments that in so far as records relating to the pre-1857 period are concerned, permission to study such records, or to take copies of or excerpts from such records, or to publish such records *in extenso* or in abridgement or translation with suitable acknowledgement should be granted expeditiously and as a matter of course, to all *bona fide* research scholars and to University Departments.

The Commission further recommends that for the records of the post-1857 period, the procedure recommended by the Archival Legislation Committee be speedily implemented.

*Explanatory Note :* The need for such a resolution has arisen because some Record Offices, either because of their own policy or under instructions from their government, are chary of giving permission to scholars and University Departments to obtain copies of records or to publish them. In one case, permission was denied to a research scholar to publish the text of two brief letters of the early 18th century, and no reason was assigned for the denial of such permission. The Ministry of Education is requested not only to ensure the implementation of this policy in the National Archives, but also to take up this matter with the State Governments.

### *Resolutions by Shri V. N. Datta*

#### *Resolution (a)*

The Commission recommends that all records which are 40 years old should be thrown open without any kind of censorship.

*Explanatory Note :* The existing restrictions and screening imposed by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Home Ministry are irksome to researchers.

### *Resolution (b)*

The Commission recommends that 'open' records should be open to every citizen of India.

*Explanatory Note* : At present only *bona fide* researchers are allowed to inspect the records.

### *Secretary's Note*

The Resolution moved by Dr. N. K. Sinha refers to proper administration of rules governing access to records in the several States. The attention of the State Governments, especially the Government of West Bengal and Madras, may be drawn to his views and observations.

It is agreed that as far as possible there should be uniformity in the rules governing access to records in the several States. The question might receive further consideration at the hands of the National Committee of Archivists and the State Governments may be moved to take appropriate steps in the matter.

As regards access to the records of the Government of India, subject to certain limitations, the records of the Ministry of External Affairs are open up to 31st December 1935, the Ministry of Home Affairs have adopted a thirty year rule, and all other Ministries have adopted a forty year rule. The question of relaxing the restrictions and further liberalising the rules in other respects has been under the active consideration of the Government. It is hoped that an early decision would be reached.

The views expressed regarding speedy release of excerpts, subject to scrutiny is a purely administrative problem and may be brought to the notice of the Ministries of the Government of India and the State Governments.

### *Proceedings*

Shri Manickam, Curator, Madras Record Office, objected to the remarks contained in the Explanatory Note to the resolution proposed by Dr. N. K. Sinha. He said that all facilities possible were being afforded to scholars by his Department and often difficulties arose as the references supplied by scholars were wrong or inadequate. Dr. Moraes observed that the Madras Record Office was the best of its kind in the country and his students had always received every attention possible. He felt strongly that the critical references to that institution should not form part of the proceedings of the Commission. He also expressed the view that individual grievances of this type should not be brought before the Commission, but taken up with the appropriate higher authorities in the State. Dr. N. K. Sinha observed that he meant no offence, but only wanted to express the difficulties experienced by Research Scholars.

Discussion elicited the view\* that if records are 'open' excerpts taken from them should not be subjected to scrutiny by the Government Departments. As regards the period up to which records should be "open", discussion took place on whether there should be a thirty-year rule instead of the present forty-year rule or whether all records should be open up to the day of Independence to *bona fide* scholars. The proposal for opening all records up to August 1947 was lost by a majority vote and that for the adoption of a thirty-year rule accepted. On the basis of these discussions the following resolution was finally adopted :

*Resolution XVII: The Commission resolves to make the following recommendations to the Government of India and the State Governments. (a) All records in the custody of the Union and State Governments which are more than thirty years old should be open to all bona fide researchers. (b) The system of scrutiny of excerpts or copies or notes taken by the researchers from the records which are open should be abolished and no permission should be required for publication of such records and of results of researchers based on them.*

#### (24) Setting up of Archives Departments in the States

##### *Resolution by Shri P. C. Sarma*

This Commission reiterates its previous resolutions on the question of establishment of Central Record Offices in the States and requests the Union Government to give financial assistance to those States where it has not been possible so far to set up Central Record Offices due to paucity of funds.

*Explanatory Note :* The question of establishment of Central Record Offices in the States is a long standing one. In accordance with the recommendation of the Commission on the subject the majority of the States have now established Central Record Offices. In the rest of the States, lack of requisite funds is standing in the way of giving effect to the recommendation of the Commission. Some form of central assistance, therefore, seems necessary to enable these States to set up Central Record Offices without further delay.

##### *Resolution by Prof. G. H. Khare*

The Commission recommends that Government of Mysore should set up a properly organised Archives Department of its own.

*Explanatory Note :* In India almost each and every State has created its own record office. But, so far as I know, the Mysore State has no records office of the type which we find in other States. I am hearing

since long that the Maharaja of Mysore has incredibly vast number of records in his private possession. Besides that collection there are a number of old historical families in that State which have very valuable records in their custody. We should, therefore, request the Maharaja of Mysore and the Mysore Government to create an archives office of their own and collect and deposit the records in their possession imitating the generous example of the Maharajas and the Maharanas, Rajas and Jagirdars of Rajasthan, so that research scholars may get the opportunity of examining and getting new materials for their writings on history in all its aspects

### *Secretary's Note*

At its 32nd session in 1956 (Resolution II) and again at its 34th session in 1958-59 (Resolution III-b) the Commission recommended the setting up of properly organised Record Offices in the States which did not have them. At present full-fledged Archives Departments exist in the States of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Madras, Bihar, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan and Jammu & Kashmir. Assam has only a Secretariat Record Office. There are no distinct Archives Departments in Mysore, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Nagaland and the Union Territories excepting Goa.

No specific provision exists in the present Five Year Plan for financial assistance for setting up of Archives Departments in the States. However, there is a provision of Rs. 5 lakhs for the Development of Archives in the States.

As regards Dr. Khare's Resolution, the Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records, Mysore at its meeting on 2 January 1966 has recommended that a Record Office should be set up on the model of the Record Offices in Maharashtra and Madras, and it should be attached to the Department of Archaeology, Mysore.

### *Proceedings*

The Commission endorsed the proposal and adopted the following Resolutions :

Resolution XVIII : *The Commission reiterates its previous resolutions on the question of the establishment of Central Record Offices in the States and resolves that the Government of India be requested to give financial assistance to those States where it has not been possible so far to set up Central Record Offices due to paucity of funds.*

Resolution XIX : *The Commission resolves that the Government of Mysore be requested to set up a properly organised Archives Department of its own in the State.*

## (25) Setting up of Manuscript Libraries in the States

*Resolution by Dr. Niharranjan Ray*

Whereas the culture and learning of this country are enshrined in the writings extant in the ancient languages of this country and whereas no sustained efforts were made at any time by the Government of India to resuscitate this culture by efforts to preserve the manuscripts in the several languages of India and whereas it is a moral responsibility of the Government of India to take the initiative in this matter it is resolved by this Commission to recommend to the Government of India to allocate funds on as liberal a scale as possible to assist the State Governments to improve or establish and build up Manuscript Libraries in which each State may foster the collection of manuscripts available in the local languages of the State, in addition to manuscripts in the classical languages like Sanskrit, Palī, Arabic and Persian.

*Explanatory Note :* It was resolved at the 35th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission in 1960 that the Government of India and the State Governments should set up Manuscript Libraries where all the manuscripts now in the custody of the National Archives of India and those in the respective State Archives are to be ultimately transferred. It was also resolved at the same meeting that manuscripts and documents of historical importance should be collected and preserved in their custody by the National Archives of India and State Record Offices, till such time as the Central and State Governments set up their own Manuscript Libraries. The National Archives of India and some States continue to collect manuscripts which are all preserved in the manuscripts' cells attached to their respective archives. Some States were of the view that the question of setting up separate Manuscript Libraries will be taken up, while some States like Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh had expressed the view that more than one Manuscript Library was already functioning in their States. But the main consideration for the opening of separate Manuscript Libraries will be that manuscripts and documents cannot claim to be archives and may not receive the care and attention specially required for them, by their being preserved in archival repositories. The second but more important factor is that with the work of Regional Historical Records Survey Committees in regard to the collection of manuscript material and it being a necessity to collect many valuable manuscripts in private hands or private institutions because of the unscientific and casual manner in which they are all preserved, it is now more incumbent than before on the part of the Central and State Governments to provide manuscript repositories

manned by efficient staff for the preservation and publication of the manuscript wealth of the country.

### *Secretary's Note*

Resolution III of the 35th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission in 1960 covered the same ground. As reported to the Commission at its last session, the Governments of Madras, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir stated that they had full-fledged Manuscript Libraries. The Governments of Punjab, Mysore and Maharashtra replied that the work had been entrusted to the Archives Departments and Research Institutions and considered the existing arrangements to be satisfactory. Orissa and West Bengal agreed to set up separate Manuscript Libraries after a sufficient number of manuscripts had been collected.

### *Proceedings*

Since the proposal did not fall within the scope of the Commission, it was dropped.

## (26) Financial aid to Private Institutions

### *Resolution by Shri Shridhar Bhaskar Bhat*

The Commission recommends that financial aid and help may be given to private institutions doing the work of collection, preservation, publication and protecting archival material of historical and cultural importance, for purposes of erection of building and for other necessary equipments.

*Explanatory Note :* At the Session held at Chandigarh in February 1961, a resolution was unanimously passed that the Government of India should give financial aid for purposes of buildings and other equipments, to private institutions doing archival work.

The members of the Commission would like to know what action has been taken upon it.

### *Secretary's Note*

Attention is invited to the Annexure to the Proceedings at (p. 66).

### *Proceedings*

The resolution was withdrawn.

## (27) Microfilming equipment for State Record Offices etc.

### *Resolution by Dr. Niharranjan Ray*

Whereas archives and manuscript libraries are required to furnish copies of several documents or manuscripts in parts or whole from time to time

to meet the demands of research workers and whereas both institutions are called upon to take copies of documents or manuscripts in private custody, which the private owners are generally unwilling to part with, or loan, a microfilm camera for producing sequential copies of such documents or pages of manuscripts will be a necessary adjunct to an archives office or a manuscript library, this Commission resolves to recommend to the State Governments to equip their State Archives and manuscripts libraries severally with the microfilming equipment where the two institutions are located apart and conjointly where they are near each other and it recommends to the Government of India to help the State Governments in obtaining foreign exchange facilities for the purchase of microfilming equipments.

*Explanatory Note :* The importance of archives or manuscripts as a nation's irreplaceable heritage need not be over-stressed. Though the argument remains that no copy can replace the original in the event of its loss, the only way in which the full memory of a document subjected to the ravages of time as in the case of archives or neglect as in the case of manuscripts in private hands can be preserved is by microfilming all such material. Further, the growing interests of the researchers have to be met by making available copies of original documents to researchers in and outside India whenever they are called for. It is, therefore, necessary that the archival institutions and the manuscript libraries throughout the country are equipped with the microfilming equipments on the lines suggested in the text of the Resolution.

#### *Resolution by Prof. S. H. Askari*

Resolved that the University and the Research Institutes be given suitable financial assistance for microfilming and photographing of original records by individual members in the course of regional surveys.

*Explanatory Note :* In the course of regional surveys and research tours we very often come across many old manuscripts, papers and records of historical and cultural importance. Their owners are not prepared to part with them, but they do not feel disinclined to allow their records to be microfilmed or photographed. In view of the circumstances prevailing in our country, there is danger of these valuable records being lost, and so it is necessary to obtain their photos or microfilm copies.

#### *Resolution by Dr. Satish Chandra*

Recommended that xerox and microfilm machines be provided at the important State Archives so that research scholars and institutions may be able to obtain photo-copies of documents and other historical material and that necessary foreign exchange should be made available to the institutions concerned for the above purpose.

### Secretary's Note

Only the Uttar Pradesh State Archives appears to have arrangements for microfilming. Andhra Pradesh wanted to set up a microfilming unit during the Third Five Year Plan, but the project had to be given up for want of foreign exchange. The Government of Rajasthan has acquired a microfilm camera but due to paucity of raw film they have not made any headway.

### Proceedings

The resolution was redrafted and adopted as follows :

*Resolution XX : Whereas Archives and Manuscripts Libraries are required to furnish copies of several documents or manuscripts in part or whole from time to time to meet the demands of research workers, and are further called upon to take copies of documents or manuscripts in private custody, which the private owners are generally unwilling to part with, the Commission resolves that the Government of India in the Ministry of Education be requested to take early steps to provide a xerox machine at the 'National Archives' and State Manuscripts Libraries.*

*The Commission also resolves that the Government of India and the State Governments be requested to take early steps to make available microfilming equipment and other facilities, including supply of raw film, to the National Libraries, and State Archives and State Manuscripts Libraries.*

### (28) Construction of Archival Buildings

#### *Resolution by Dr. Niharranjan Ray*

Whereas housing of archives in a building planned and constructed on scientific lines is a *sine qua non*, for their proper preservation, and whereas it appears desirable that the Government of India offers liberal financial assistance in achieving this objective by States which have not so far constructed a new building, this Commission resolves to recommend to the Government of India to lend such financial assistance to the States and would suggest to the States that they may immediately formulate plans for the construction of new buildings to house their archives and that they may draw in planning their new buildings on the experience of the States which have already constructed their buildings.

*Explanatory Note :* A resolution on this subject was passed at the 34th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Tri-vandrum in January 1959. The Commission strongly recommended to the



States that had not by then taken up the development of Archives as a part of the Five Year Development Plans to include the subject in their development plans without delay. It had also requested the Government of India to render financial assistance to such States as had no organised Archives for the equipment and development of such institutions.

The States also accepted this Resolution in principle and some had drawn up schemes for centralising their records and to set up archival buildings. The State of Andhra Pradesh has, under the Third Five Year Plan, completed the construction of a new archival building for its records.

Records of activities of the Government in different spheres have to be preserved for use in connection with the current and future administrative purposes. Smooth and successful running of administration depends to a great extent on the safe preservation of records for which purpose special repository buildings on scientific principles have to be constructed. A well-planned archival building is a prerequisite for the careful maintenance of records as well as for the other functions of the record keeper viz., classification and arrangement of records.

It is therefore necessary for such of the States that have not so far constructed separate archival buildings on scientific lines to undertake this activity as a part of their developmental schemes. The Central Government may consider the schemes of aiding the States in setting up archival buildings as an important item in their plan schemes.

#### *Resolution by Shri P. N. Pushp*

Resolved that the Central Government be approached for a plan provision of financial assistance to the State Governments for construction of fire-proof buildings for the housing of the State archives.

*Explanatory Note :* Some of the States have not yet been in a position to house their archival materials in fire-proof buildings so as to ensure the valuable records against the risk of damage by fire. The latest reminder of the imperative need to house archives in fire-proof buildings is that of the fire that gutted a wing of the old Secretariat building at Jammu three months back, when the archival records could be salvaged with great difficulty.

#### *Secretary's Note*

Provision of proper archival buildings is no doubt a matter of great importance and urgency. The Government of Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh have agreed to include development of archives as a plan item. Only Andhra Pradesh

has been able to construct a building to house records. The Government of India has made a plan provision of Rs. 5 lakhs for the development of State Archives Departments, but the allotment is too meagre to meet, even by way of token grants, the cost of new buildings. The Government of Kerala approached the Centre for financial assistance for construction of a new archival building, but the Government of India has not been able to accede to the request.

### *Proceedings*

The proposal was not pursued as the Commission had already passed a resolution recommending that "Archives" should be a plan item, and if this were accepted, the expenditure on archival buildings would also be covered.

### (29) Construction of an Annexe to the National Archives of India

#### *Resolution by Dr. N. K. Sinha*

This Committee invites attention of the Government of India to Resolution II of its 36th Session (1961) on the construction of an annexe to the present National Archives premises, and in view of the fact that National Archives has no room for taking in all the records of the Government which are mature for retirement, the Commission reiterates its recommendation that top-most priority should be given to the construction of the annexe.

*Explanatory Note :* It will be seen from the Report of the Committee on Archival Legislation that the National Archives houses 1/11 of the total archival assets of the Government of India roughly, the remaining 10/11 being somehow maintained by the originating departments concerned (para. 21). The Committee further points out, "A proposal for the construction of an annexe to the National Archives of India building has been under consideration since 1945, but it has not so far been implemented... Further postponement of this work will in our view be a measure of doubtful economy. The longer the delay the more difficult and more expensive is sure to become the task of keeping the records at present uncared for even in a reasonably good state of repair." (para. 53.) The Committee, therefore, has requested the Government to give "top-most priority... to the construction of the proposed annexe." (Summary of recommendations, page 119.) The Committee submitted its report in December, 1960. Although more than six years have passed since that date and more than 20 years when the proposal was first mooted, no progress seems to have been achieved.

### *Secretary's Note*

The Government of India has accepted in principle that the National Archives of India requires additional accommodation to receive non-current records from the various Government Departments. A provision of Rs. 28.77 lakhs was in fact made in the Budget for 1961 for the construction of an Annexe. But the work was not taken up since the special Advisory Group for the Central Vista and Central Secretariat Complex of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply did not favour any extension of the present building. Various alternatives have engaged the attention of the Government ever since. The Specialist Advisory Group at its meeting of August 1966 has recommended that a building may be erected in the Institutional Area, Hauz Khas, New Delhi, to meet the growing needs of the Department.

### *Proceedings*

Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad observed that the Commission had been pressing for the construction of an Annexe to house all records which the National Archives had not been able to receive for want of space and also to provide better facilities for research scholars. While welcoming the decision to construct an Annexe, he felt strongly that it should be located in the immediate neighbourhood of the National Archives. The Commission concurred in these views and adopted the following resolution :

*Resolution XXI : The Commission reiterates its previous Resolutions on the subject and resolves that the Government of India be requested to accord top-most priority to the construction of an Annexe to the National Archives of India.*

*Being of the opinion that all the records of the National Archives of India at Delhi should be at one central place where it would be easily accessible both to Research Scholars and the different Departments and offices of the Government of India and not be divided in any manner, the Commission further resolves that the Annexe should be built adjacent to the present building of the National Archives of India.*

*The Commission further resolves that additional facilities should be provided by the National Archives of India to Research Scholars by way of a larger Research Room, etc.*

- (30) Qualifications for recruitment to the Oriental Records Division of the National Archives of India

*Resolution by Dr. S. Nurul Hasan*

The Commission recommends that for purposes of appointment in the Oriental Records Division of the National Archives, the minimum qualification should be M.A. in History (Medieval or Modern India) with an adequate knowledge of Persian language.

*Explanatory Note :* At the moment, the minimum qualifications prescribed for appointment is M.A. in Persian. This does not fulfil the actual requirements of working on historical records in Persian.

### *Proceedings*

While it was no doubt essential that candidates selected to work on oriental records should have knowledge of the language and script concerned, the consensus was that they should have a good degree in History, and the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolution XXII : The Commission resolves that for purposes of appointment in the Oriental Records Division of the National Archives of India, the minimum qualification should be M.A. in History (Medieval or Modern India) with an adequate knowledge of the language and script concerned.*

### (31) Teaching of Regional History

*Resolution by Shri P. K. Abdulla*

The Commission recommends that Regional History should be included in University curricula on a regional basis.

*Explanatory Note:* Regional History, it may be argued, is part of the history of the sub-continent of India and as such its value in the general context would only be very restricted. On a closer scrutiny of the general history of India as it obtains today, it would appear that full justice to entire regions of the sub-continent has not been done. As a matter of fact even our Universities, it appears, have not given much attention or importance to this fact. It is a fact that the history of a particular region as it exists today is more or less compartmental, e.g., the history of Kerala is the history of Travancore, the history of Cochin, and history of the various Chiefs of Malabar. Only an organised body of scholars patronised by the Universities and the State and Central Governments could successfully co-ordinate the historical structure of a region and present a factual history. The respective Archives institutions of the concerned regions may arrange for the supply of the necessary source materials for the compilation of such regional history.

### *Proceedings*

There was no support for the proposal and it was dropped.

### (32) Setting up of a Standing Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission

*Resolution by Dr. S. Nurul Hasan*

Resolved that the Indian Historical Records Commission may set up a Standing Committee to (a) advise the Union Government regarding the

assistance which may be provided to the State Governments for improving the functioning of their archives; (b) advise the Union and State Governments regarding steps to be taken to implement the resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission; (c) advise the Indian Historical Records Commission regarding steps which have been or may be taken for the implementation of its resolutions, and (d) advise it on matters relating to the programme of publication of records, calendars, etc.

*Explanatory Note :* The Advisory Committee of the Archaeological Survey of India has a Standing Committee which serves a similar purpose. Although the Indian Historical Records Commission has been continuously giving serious consideration to the archival problems of the country, it is to be regretted that many States do not recognise the importance of archives, and the archival wealth of the country is therefore dissipated. A Standing Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission could bring this matter continuously to the notice of the States and the Government of India, and ensure that close attention is given to the problems of historians in regard to the state of archives in the country.

### *Proceedings*

The proposal elicited controversy, and the consensus was that the question may be considered again next year in the light of experience. It was, however, felt that there should be a Steering Committee to go through the resolutions and papers submitted, and the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolution XXIII : The Commission resolves that a Steering Committee of the Commission be constituted to prepare the Agenda etc. for the next session of the Commission.*

(33) Setting up of a Sub-Committee of the Commission to enquire into the working of State Archives Departments.

### *Resolution by Shri S. C. De*

Resolved that a Sub-Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission be constituted to enquire into the working of the Archives in the States and to submit a report to it on the matter in order that it might take steps for bringing about uniformity in the activities of the State Archives in conformity with the principles laid down by its Resolutions passed at its different Sessions and also for impressing upon the State Governments the need of developing State Archives in a systematic and approved way in the best interest of the State administration and also historical research.

*Explanatory Note* : Almost each State of India has now a State Archives, but the functioning of the Archives differs from State to State. For instance, in the Punjab and Maharashtra, Archives is combined with Archaeology. In some other States, Archives is looked upon as a mere repository of some old records and treated as an institution meant for display of old and interesting documents and granting facility for research in them. Non-current permanent records of the Government, in very few cases, are transferred to the Archives for their preservation after attainment of a particular chronological limit, 20 or 25 years. In consequence, the acquisitions of the State Archives are of a sporadic type, not regular as it should be. Since little importance is attached to the development of Archives, very few States have permanent buildings specially designed for Archives. There are many such points with regard to proper and systematic development of Archives in States which have to be investigated into by an Expert Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission. With a view to systematizing the functioning of the Archives in the States and urging the State Governments to adopt a uniform principle as approved by the Indian Historical Records Commission for development of the State Archives, it is very necessary that an Expert Committee should be set up at an early date.

### *Proceedings*

The proposal was dropped.

## DISCUSSION MEETING

Shri H. Venkatasubbiah, Economic Correspondent of - *The Hindu* at Delhi, Dr. Dwijendra Tripathi of the Institute of Business Management, Ahmedabad, and Shri B. R. Grover, Reader in History, Jamia College, Delhi, participated in the Discussion Meeting, on special invitation.

The subject selected for the Discussion Meeting was "The Sources and Problems of Business History," and Papers on the same were read by the following :

1. Dr. N. K. Sinha.
2. Dr. Dwijendra Tripathi.
3. Shri B. R. Grover.
4. Shri B. K. Apte.
5. Shri H. Venkatasubbiah.
6. Shri J. K. Manickam.
7. Dr. S. Bhattacharya.
8. Shri Anthony D'Costa.

Dr. V. Shanmugasundaram, Professor and Head of the Department of Economics, University of Madras, who had been extended a special invitation to attend the Discussion Meeting could not be present, and the paper he sent was received late. The Director of Archives, Government of Kerala, also sent a paper, which was received late and could not be placed before the Commission.

For want of time there was no discussion on the papers.

The Commission approved of "Sources of Social History" as the subject for the Discussion Meeting at its next session. It was also agreed that Papers should be submitted to the Secretary two months before the scheduled date and copies should be circulated to members one month in advance.

In winding up the deliberations, the President observed that the Ministry of Education was highly appreciative of the role of the Commission and looked forward to its co-operation in future years to achieve the objects in view. He expressed thanks on behalf of the Commission to Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad, Local Secretary, and the University of Delhi for their excellent arrangements for the reception of the members. He also expressed his gratitude to Mahamahopadhyaya D. V. Potdar for kindly presiding over the deliberations of the Business Meeting of the Commission in his absence.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

### Members Present

#### *Ordinary Members*

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Dr. P. N. Kirpal (Chairman) | Dr. M. N. Das      |
| Prof. M. Mujeeb             | Dr. R. R. Sethi    |
| Shri V. K. Bawa             | Dr. Satish Chandra |
| Dr. M. G. Dikshit           | Dr. H. L. Gupta    |
| Shri V. S. Suri             | Dr. M. Rama Rao    |
| Shri T. K. Mukherjee        | Dr. G. M. Moraes   |
| Dr. G. N. Saletore          | Dr. P. Saran       |
| Shri N. R. Khadgawat        | Dr. V. A. Narain   |
| Shri J. K. Manickam         | Prof. G. H. Khare  |
| Shri P. N. Pushp            | Dr. A. K. Majumdar |

Prof. Nurul Hasan  
 Prof. Bisheshwar Prasad  
 Prof. N. K. Sinha  
 Prof. P. C. Gupta  
 Prof. Sukumar Bhattacharya  
 Prof. O. P. Bhatnagar  
 Dr. Hira Lal Singh  
 Prof. S. B. Chaudhury  
 Shri Bhagwati Prasad Panthari  
 Shri V. N. Datta  
 Dr. R. N. Prasad  
 Dr. H. S. Srivastava  
 Dr. R. S. Gupte  
 Shri B. K. Apte  
 Dr. Pancha Nand Misra  
 Dr. H. K. Barpujari  
 Dr. Bimla Prasad  
 Dr. G. S. Dikshit  
 Dr. R. N. Nagar  
 Dr. S. C. Misra  
 Dr. D. P. Sinha

Dr. Gopal Krishna  
 Dr. A. R. Kulkarni  
 Rev. Anthony D'Costa  
 Shri B. K. Basu  
 Dr. S. P. Sen  
 Shri S. A. Ali  
 Prof. S. H. Askari  
 Shri Shridhar Bhaskar Bhat  
 Shri B. R. Nanda  
 Dr. S. N. Prasad  
 Dr. B. B. Mishra  
 Dr. B. P. Saksena

*Corresponding Members*

Mahamahopadhyaya D. V. Potdar  
 Dr. A. L. Srivastava  
 Prof. H. K. Sherwani  
 Dr. Hari Ram Gupta  
 Dr. P. M. Joshi  
 Dr. Amba Prasad  
 Dr. T. Raychaudhuri  
 Shri K. D. Bhargava (Secretary)



*ANNEXURE A*

**Conspectus of action taken on the Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission and the Research and publication Committee.**



## ANNEXURE A

Conspectus of action taken on the Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission and the Research and Publication Committee

*Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission,  
35th Session, New Delhi, February 1960*

Resolution III: (a) *Resolved that the National Archives of India and the State Record Offices should collect manuscripts and documents which might be of use to research scholars and students of history and preserve them separately in their respective custody till such time as the Central and State Governments set up their own Manuscript Libraries.*

(b) *Resolved, further, that the Government of India and the State Governments should set up Manuscript Libraries at an early date where all the manuscripts now in the custody of the National Archives of India and respective State Archives are to be ultimately transferred.*

(For information received earlier from other Governments see Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Vol. XXXVI, Pt. I, pp. 97-98.)

**Mysore.**—The State Government states that it does not intend to set up any more Manuscript Libraries as the work of manuscript collection is being done by the following organisations :

- (i) Department of Archaeology.
- (ii) Oriental Research Institute, Mysore.
- (iii) Kannada Research Institute, Dharwar.
- (iv) The Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records.

The old manuscripts and documents collected by these institutions would be preserved at (i) the Oriental Research Institute, Mysore, which is under the University of Mysore, and (ii) the Kannada Research Institute, Dharwar, which is under the Karnataka University, Dharwar.

**Maharashtra.**—The State Government does not consider it necessary to set up a separate Manuscript Library as the Secretariat Record Office, Government of Maharashtra, has already set up a Section where manuscripts useful to the work of that office are collected.

*Resolution IV.—The Commission reiterates its previous recommendation that the State Governments should appoint trained personnel in their respective Record Offices, and request that State Governments may avail of the services of the officers in their respective States who have received training in the National Archives of India for the improvement of their Archives Offices.*

(For information received earlier from other States see Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Vol. XXXVI, Pt. I, p. 98.)

*Punjab.*—There being not much of old records of national or historical importance the State Government does not consider it necessary to appoint trained Archivists in the District Record Offices. The Punjab High Court has already got two trained Archivists on its establishment. The question of deputing some more officials for training in Archives-Keeping would be considered by the State Government at the appropriate time.

*Resolution V.—Resolved that the Indian Historical Records Commission may appoint a sub-committee to explore the feasibility of and suggest ways and means of preparing microfilm copies of important newspapers published in India during the 19th and early 20th centuries.*

*Government of India.*—As reported at the last meeting of the Commission, a Working Group or Sub-Committee comprising the Director of Archives, Government of India, and the Librarian, National Library, Calcutta, was constituted. It drew up a detailed list of old journals and newspapers to be microfilmed. It also suggested that the National Library should take up the project as it had the largest holding of such papers. The recommendation has been accepted and the National Library entrusted with the task.

*Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission,  
36th Session, Chandigarh, February 1961*

*Resolution I.—The President and the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission present at Chandigarh in connection with the thirty-sixth annual session of the Commission offer their felicitations to Prof. G. H. Khare on his sixty-first birthday and wish him a prosperous long and happy life. The Commission takes this opportunity to record its profound appreciation of his many significant contributions in the fields of Indian history and archival and linguistic studies and looks forward with hope to his continuing to enrich with original contributions the various fields of learning in which he has specialised. The Secretary of the Commission is re-*

*quested to convey to Prof. Khare the felicitations offered by the members.*

The felicitations were duly forwarded to Prof G. H. Khare.

*Resolution II.—In view of the fact that the National Archives of India is not in a position to receive the non-current records from most of the Ministries and Departments of the Government of India for want of space, the Commission strongly recommends to the Government of India to give top priority to the construction of an annexe to its existing building.*

*The Government of India.*—The Government of India has accepted in principle that the National Archives of India requires additional accommodation to receive non-current records from the various Government Departments. A provision of Rs. 28.77 lakhs was in fact made in 1961 for the construction of an Annexe. But the work was not taken up since the Specialist Advisory Group for the Central Vista and Central Secretariat Complex held that the proposed annexe would not fit in with their general plans. The Specialist Advisory Group at its meeting of August 1966 has now agreed to the National Archives of India continuing in its present premises, and has further recommended that a building may be erected in the Institutional Area, Hauz Khas, New Delhi, to meet the growing needs of the Department.

*Resolution III: (a) Resolved that the various records creating agencies in India should use as far as possible standard quality paper and ink of the standard specified by the Indian Standards Institution.*

*(b) Resolved further that the National Archives of India should take similar action in regard to carbon copies and typewriting ink in consultation with the Indian Standards Institution.*

The Resolution was duly forwarded to the late Ministry of Works Housing and Supply in the Government of India and to all the State Governments for consideration and necessary action.

*(a) The Government of India.*—The Chief Controller of Printing and Stationery, responsible for meeting the stationery requirements of the Central Government Departments, reported that the paper mills were not agreeable to the adoption of the specifications set by the Indian Standards Institution as they considered that the standards set were too high and, if the proposals were implemented, production would be greatly affected. Early this year, the Ministry of Works & Housing etc. have been again approached to secure the co-operation of the paper mills. Further, the Directorate General Technical Development and All-India Khadi and Village Industries Commission have been moved to explore the possibilities of obtaining hand-made paper of the required specifications in adequate quantities.

The firm replies received from the State Governments are as follow :—

*Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindive Islands.*—Paper and ink of the prescribed specification would be used for policy files provided they are available with the Government of India Stationery Stores.

*Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Tripura, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Pondicherry.*—The Commission's Resolution has been noted and brought to the attention of all concerned.

*Gujarat.*—The Resolution has been accepted and necessary action is being taken.

*Assam.*—The implementation of the Resolution would depend on the availability of materials.

*Kerala.*—The recommendation could be implemented gradually provided materials of specified standard were available and it did not involve much financial commitment.

*Madras.*—Orders have been issued directing that cream laid Royal 32 lbs. paper should be used for printing of all records of permanent value pending the manufacture of paper according to the Indian Standards Institution specifications.

*Uttar Pradesh.*—In view of the national emergency the implementation of the Resolution is postponed.

*Andhra Pradesh.*—The inks supplied by the Stationery Department conform to the Indian Standards Institution specifications. Also the paper supplied by the State Stationery Department is procured against the allocation of the Director General, Supplies and Disposals, New Delhi, on rate contract and it conforms to the specifications given in the schedule to the rate contract.

(b) *The Government of India.*—In addition to laying down standards in respect of paper and ink, the Indian Standards Institution has laid down the following specifications in respect of carbon paper :

Typewriting carbon paper: IS: 1551: 1959.

Handwriting carbon paper: IS: 3450: 1966.

The specification to be adopted in respect of typewriting ribbon is still under the consideration of Indian Standards Institution.

*Resolution IV.*—*Resolved that the private institutions which have manuscripts, documents and other materials of historical importance in their respective custody should be given financial aid by the Government of India for their proper housing, maintenance, preservation and utilization.*

*Government of India.*—The Ministry of Education has brought the Resolution and also the recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) contained in paras. 182-4 of its Report, which covers the same ground, to the attention of the University Grants Commission and also of the Sections in the Ministry directly concerned with grant of assistance to cultural bodies. The University Grants Commission has promised to consider proposals received from the Universities in the light of the recommendations of the Committee. Requests for grants received from private institutions by the Ministry of Education would also be considered in the light of these recommendations.

The Government of India has also forwarded the Resolution to all the State Governments with the recommendation that it was desirable to continue, and if possible expand efforts in this regard.

Resolution V: (a) *Resolved that the Secretariat records of the former Government of Madhya Pradesh which were housed at Nagpur at the time when Nagpur was the headquarters of Madhya Pradesh should be the legal property of the present Madhya Pradesh Government who should take proper care for their maintenance and preservation. That the Government of Madhya Pradesh should take early steps to set up a Central Record Office for housing these records and appoint a qualified Keeper of Records to look after those records.*

(b) *Resolved further that the Nagpur Residency records which are the property of the Central Government may be retained by the Government of Madhya Pradesh on quasi-permanent loan if required by the State Government for administrative purposes.*

*Maharashtra.*—The State Government accepted Section (a) of the Resolution and requested the Madhya Pradesh Government to afford facilities for consulting the records dating upto 1st November 1956 to the officers and scholars from Maharashtra.

*Government of India.*—The Government of India could not accept Section (b) of the Resolution since the records of all defunct Residencies and Political Agencies devolved upon the Union Government after the lapse of paramountcy in 1947.

*Resolutions of the Research and Publication Committee,  
27th meeting, New Delhi, September, 1958*

Resolution VI.—*Resolved that the Record Offices in India should compile lists of their publications and reprint such of the publications as are out of print and for which there is still a demand from research institutions and research students.*

(For replies received earlier see Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Vols. XXXV, Pt. I, p. 39, and XXXVI, Pt. I, p. 62.)

*Punjab.*—Adequate copies of the publications of the Punjab Government Archives are in stock and as such there is no need for reprinting them for the present.

*Resolutions of the Research and Publication Committee,  
29th meeting, New Delhi, February, 1960*

*Resolution V.*—Resolved that the State Governments be requested to undertake a programme of publication of Land Revenue Records in their respective custody and that the National Archives of India should extend its help to the State Governments by offering microfilm copies of such records as may be required by the State Governments in this regard.

(For replies received earlier see Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Vol. XXXVI, Pt. I, pp. 64-65.)

*Maharashtra.*—For bringing out a Calendar of Land Revenue Records, the State Government sanctioned in February 1961, 19 posts of Senior Clerks for 3 months and 1 post of Senior Clerk for 1 month.

*Gujarat.*—The State Government does not consider it necessary to depute any one to examine the records in the custody of the National Archives of India bearing on the land revenue system of Gujarat. Further, the State has no historical records requiring microfilming for the present.

*Uttar Pradesh.*—The State has not been in a position to implement the Resolution for want of funds.

*Resolution VI.*—Resolved that the Union Ministry of Defence may be moved to consider the feasibility of undertaking the publication of records available with the Government of India bearing on India's military history.

*Government of India.*—The Ministry of Defence accepted the recommendation and the work of selection of records bearing on India's military history for the first volume has been completed. An Editor is being appointed to edit the volume.

*Resolutions of the Research and Publication Committee,  
30th meeting, New Delhi, July, 1960*

*Resolution V.*—Resolved that the Union and the State Governments be requested to issue necessary instructions to the administrative Departments under them not to destroy the old newspapers, gazettes, books etc. in their libraries without consulting the officer-in-charge of Archives Offices.

(For replies received earlier see Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Vol. XXXVI, Pt. I, pp. 67-68.)



*Government of India—Ministry of Works, Housing & Supply.*—The number of gazettes, journals, etc. handled in the Publications Branch in-charge of the publications of the Government of India is so large that it is not possible to implement the Resolution. It may, however, be mentioned that the publications are destroyed in accordance with the Departmental instructions laid down in Appendix G of the Publications Branch Manual, part I. With the exception of the Gazette of India and the Indian Trade Journal, a copy each of the publications meant for destruction is sent to the National Library, Calcutta, and the National Archives of India, New Delhi.

*Andhra Pradesh.*—Has accepted the resolution and directed all Departments and Offices not to destroy old newspapers, etc. without consulting the Director, Central Records Office.

Resolution IX: (a) *Resolved that the National Archives of India should compile and publish calendars of historical documents other than those belonging to the East India Company in its custody.*

(b) *Further resolved that the State Governments should prepare and publish descriptive lists of similar documents in the custody of their respective Record Offices on the pattern of "The Descriptive List of Mutiny Papers in the National Archives of India Bhopal," published by the National Archives of India; that the Government of India should provide a grant to the States for printing of these lists; that the compilation of these descriptive lists should be given priority by the State Record Offices.*

(c) *That as the programme of compilation of descriptive lists makes some progress, the State Governments may compile and publish calendars of select documents.*

*Government of India.*—As regards (a), the National Archives of India has prepared descriptive lists of 1646 documents, in Persian, acquired from private sources. A good number of them belong to the 17th and 18th centuries. The work of collation and editing is in hand.

As regards (b), the Ministry of Education has expressed the view that this project should form part of the Publication Programme of the several States and financed out of State Funds. In any case, the question of grant would arise only after the lists have been compiled by the States Archives Departments.

*Mysore.*—The Records in the State Archives commence only from about 1799 and as such the resolution is not applicable to them.

*Kerala.*—The State Government asked for a copy of *The Descriptive List of Mutiny papers in the National Archives of India* for guidance and it was supplied.

*Punjab.*—Reported that the State Archives have no pre-19th century records.

*Rajasthan.*—Agreed to implement the Resolution.

*Andhra Pradesh.*—Work in this respect is being done and the suggestion contained in the Resolution would be kept in view. Further, the Government of India would be approached for a grant when the lists are all completed and if their printing involves considerable expenditure.

*Madras.*—Work in this direction is progressing and the work of publication would be taken up as soon as the Government is in a position to do so.

*Maharashtra.*—The Government has been engaged in publishing descriptive catalogue of the records of different Departments. The compilation of calendars of select documents would be considered when publication of descriptive catalogues has made some progress.

*Resolution X.*—*Resolved that the Government of Mysore be requested to undertake editing and publication of all letters, farmans and other records relating to Tipu Sultan.*

*Resolved further that the National Archives of India, the State Record Offices and the Archaeological Department of the Government of India may extend necessary facilities to the Government of Mysore for the examination of records and other materials that may be in their respective custody.*

(For action taken earlier see Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Vol. XXXVI, Pt. I, p. 69.)

*National Archives of India.*—The following papers were sent to the Government of Mysore : (1) list of the correspondence in French exchanged between Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan on the one hand and the French authorities on the other available with the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, microfilm copies of which are with the National Archives of India; and (ii) list of Tipu Sultan's letters (1794-99), which are among the Persian records of the National Archives of India. The Government of Mysore was requested to depute one of its own officers to the National Archives of India to trace other papers on the subject. Further, a list of records pertaining to Tipu Sultan available with the State Archives, Kerala, was obtained and forwarded to the Government of Mysore.

*Resolutions of the Research and Publication Committee,  
31st meeting, Chandigarh, February 1961*

*Resolution I: (a) Resolved that the University of Delhi be approached to provide accommodation in their hostels to persons*

*who come to conduct researches in the National Archives of India;*

(b) *Further resolved that suitable provision should be made by the University of Delhi under its plan for a Second University Campus for hostel accommodation for research scholars who come to Delhi to consult the records in the National Archives of India.*

**Delhi University.**—The University of Delhi, agreed to provide lodging facilities to the research scholars only during summer vacations from 16th May to 30th June at the Gwyer Hall and the Jubilee Hall. The charges would be Rs. 60 per month for a room, subject to a minimum of Rs. 30 for a fortnight. The scholars were to make their own arrangements for meals.

**Resolution II:** (a) *Resolved that arrangements should be made by the National Archives of India to acquire for its library all important books on history in various regional languages including those which have become scarce and out of print.*

(b) *Resolved further that an Advisory Committee should be set up to advise the Director of Archives, Government of India, in selecting books in regional languages for the library of the National Archives of India.*

**Government of India.**—Accepted the Resolution and constituted an Advisory Committee for this purpose in 1962 for an year. The members sent in certain suggestions and some books were bought. Progress has not been significant for want of funds.

**Resolution III:** *Resolved that the Ministry of Education, University Grants Commission and the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs should meet together and draw up a co-ordinate plan for release of adequate foreign exchange to the National Archives of India for acquiring microfilms of records of Indian interest from foreign countries which are valuable source materials of Indian history.*

**Government of India.**—The Government of India felt that there was no need to convene a meeting of the nature proposed, and the Director of Archives was asked to co-ordinate all requirements to ensure proper utilisation of the existing resources, viz. foreign exchange allocated to the National Archives of India for the Plan Scheme, Unesco coupons, etc.



*ANNEXURE B*

**Papers received for the Discussion Meeting**



# SOURCES AND PROBLEMS OF BUSINESS HISTORY IN INDIA IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

N. K. SINHA

*Professor of History, University of Calcutta*

The sources of business history of India in the 19th century form a vein of historical ore not yet mined. The archive material is intractable. One feels very much the lack of primary studies. I am not competent to discuss problems and sources of 17th century business history. I may be able to discuss the sources of 18th century history of this category. But I should confine myself to the first half of the 19th century because I am now engaged in exploring some sources of business history of this period. I would like to confine my attention to eastern India. At this period the Bengal Presidency formed the base of British commercial activity in India.

European private enterprise tried to establish profitable business in India in the closing years of the 18th century. The ancillaries of European commerce were European banking and insurance. Commercial crops brought about some concentration of floating European capital in India. After 1833 European Chambers of Commerce began their activity. They became more organized in the second half of the nineteenth century. The old indigenous system of banking was also functioning within its limited sphere. The papers of Indian business houses of this period have been mostly destroyed. But it was expected that European business records would be available.

So far as I can recollect I wrote about fifteen or sixteen years ago to more than twenty European firms in my official capacity as Secretary of the West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee that the Committee would like to see their old historical records in their record offices. I informed them that it was our intention to compile materials of business history in the 19th century. Some of these firms did not send any reply. Some wrote that their old non-current records were in England. Many of them informed me that their old 19th century records had been "weeded out" long ago. There are firms like Jardine Skinner, Gladstone Wyllie, which existed in the first half of the 19th century. I had a faint hope that their old papers would perhaps be available.

Mr. Geoffrey Tyson's book *100 years of Banking in Asia and Africa* had been recently published. It gives us a history of National and Grindlay's Bank from 1863 to 1963. It is a narrative of the bank's difficulties and setbacks as well as its growth. It does not give the thread of the economic and political developments of the countries in which they have plied their trade. Mr. Tyson appears interested very naturally in the past personalities connected with the bank. He writes about Calcutta in the following terms—

"a city which at various times has been the home of such famous figures as Warren Hastings at one end of the scale and Curzon on the other, of the painter Zoffany, of the historian Thomas Babington Macaulay, of Ross Aylmer and the future princess Talleyrand." With this view of Calcutta as his guideline, his narrative cannot possibly give us satisfaction. I should point out in this context that Richard Pares and Bariel Debien have shown in their studies how well planters and merchants have been made to reveal the history of West Indian slaves who have left no records. Mr. Tyson perhaps depended too much on the notes and memoranda submitted to him, not on actual business records of correspondence of these hundred years.

The general impression is that for business history it is necessary to get hold of papers of business concerns—correspondence and accounts. No documents, no history. We would be perhaps justified in thinking that Jardine-Matheson papers in the Cambridge University Library can alone give us a correct history of business relations of British firms in India trading with China in the 19th century. Their Calcutta-Canton business papers now in Cambridge cover the period from 1800 to 1900. I could see only two volumes. There are perhaps more than one hundred volumes of correspondence and accounts. It is also natural to expect that the Palmer Company papers in the Bodleian Library would give us a connected account of the business activity of this agency house whose collapse gave a rude shock to British business in India. In those days they depended entirely on capital available in India, consignment trade and export trade in opium and indigo. The European commercial and financial enclave in India was not an independent and self-contained entity during these years. It became so later.

As I could not secure access to the business files of old European firms I thought I might try to explore the archives of the old Supreme Court for business records. I was not disappointed. The commercial case records contain many attested copies of papers of many old business houses in the form of exhibits, the originals of which have perhaps been destroyed. This is unhackneyed material. Official records, even of business establishments, appear to be clothed in a garb which sometimes effaces their distinctive physiognomy. In an official series you expect data only of a particular character. But here the nature of the material is entirely different. After a day's back-breaking work in which the formal character of the material only irritates the researcher he suddenly finds a cross-examination which reveals a network of international connections. Since July 1965 I have been examining commercial case records of the period from 1793 to 1850. I may have to work for one year more. I have now a very clear idea of the behaviour pattern of European business in the first half of the nineteenth century. The gaps are many. There are sudden breaks. We have only casual scraps of statistical evidence. Nevertheless a picture emerges. Mandarin white collar economics might not describe it as real business history. But historians should be grateful even for the fragmentary information which reveals so much that was unknown.



Let me be more specific. I could find papers of many European business houses—Colvin & Co., Alexander & Co., Willis Earle & Co., John Palmer & Co., Cruttenden Mackillop Stewart & Co., Mercer & Co., Fergusson & Co., Colville Gilmore & Co., Jardine Skinner, Cockerell & Co., Hickey Bailey & Co., Shedden & Co., M. Laureletta & Co., later known as Mendicte Uriarte & Co., Mackintosh Fultan & Co., Walker Cortez & Co., Mackenzie Lyall & Co., Hill White & Co., Eglinton McClurs & Co., and many others. The list is illustrative not exhaustive.

About the nature of these commercial records I think it is necessary to mention that we can race vicissitudes but not growth. This is perhaps the true picture of the period. As the materials are very disjointed in character a research worker must be thoroughly acquainted with the history of the period before he can make full use of them. If I had attempted to piece together data from these records fifteen or twenty years ago I would not have succeeded.

A fairly connected history of some of the extinct Indian business houses can perhaps be attempted on the basis of commercial case records. It is very unlikely that we would be able to find masses of old family papers. J. H. Little's account of the House of Jagat Seth does not take us much beyond the period of their glory. Fateh Chand Jagat Seth, a descendant of the house, whom I saw about fifteen years ago in his house at Mahimapur, near Murshidabad, could only show me some *farmans* and some relics. This house, whose decline was very rapid in the 19th century had a *kothee* in Calcutta. Some case records in the Supreme Court files indicate stages in its decline. A connected history of the banking house of Mathuradas Dwarakadas of Benares and its offshoots can also be written from materials to be found in the Supreme Court archives. They had a *kothee* in Burrabazar which brought them within the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. A very thriving Bengali banking house was founded by Mathura Mohan Sen in the forties of the eighteenth century. Its history can be traced through eight decades. It also became a victim of the crisis which overtook agency houses.

Indian banks as also European banks supplied accommodation only for short period needs. Indians of substance showed a strong preference for investment in land, house property and precious metals. A similar tendency was discernible to some extent even in England. Cobden wrote to Bright, "See how every successful trader buys an estate." But among Indians in Calcutta those who had money to invest were not reluctant to put their saving in European banks or agency houses. This faith in the efficiency of European business is best reflected in the wills of this period. In 1823 Rashbehari Sarmono left Rs. 43,000 to be expended in feeding 100,000 Brahmins in the hands of Palmer & Co. A very cautious investor Udaynarayan Basak made his last will in 1828. An extract from his will best explains this faith

in agency houses. He wrote, "At present the interest on Company's paper is low. For this reason buy the notes of creditable houses of agency. You will lend all the money to five or six houses. You will not lend the whole of the money to one house. You will not lend the money to a small house. You will not buy the notes of individuals. You will not grant loans to infants or women. You will not grant loans to Bengalis or Englishmen without deposits. You will not lend upon the mortgage lands at the Sheriff's sales. You will not serve any gentleman upon granting him a loan. You will not take interest from any person beyond 12 rupees. You will not become security for any person." Many such extracts from the wills of Bengali businessmen can be quoted. By 1833 it became clear that this faith in "Saheban's business" did not appear to be justified. The agency house structure collapsed. This reinforced the pre-existing tendency to invest more and more in land.

The Indian businessman has traditionally been a *bania* separated from the craft or intellectual classes, but not so in the first half of the 19th century in which we find high-caste Hindus as close associates of European businessmen. One of them was Ramdulal Dey, a multi-millionaire who died in April 1825. He has been described in case records as a banian or a merchant and agent. The huge fortune which he left to his two sons was not very much affected by the agency house crisis. When his successors made a list of his very inconsiderable liabilities they found that they had to pay small sums to three doctors (one of them an Englishman), ten ships' captains, Ferguson & Co., Hogue Davidson & Co., on American remittance account and on dollar account. Ramdulal Dey, in his life time, exercised great influence among merchants and monied men of Calcutta, Indian and non-Indian. In his last Will and Testament he appointed his two sons Asutosh Dey and Pramathanath Dey as also Daniel Clark, William Melville, William Fairlie Clark and John Smith of Calcutta as his executors.

1834-47 was a period of close partnership between European and Indian businessmen in Calcutta. Rustomji Cowasjee, Dwarkanath Tagore and Muttylull Seal, persons of great wealth, opulence and power, were in close business partnership with Europeans. But Rustomji Turner & Co., Carr Tagore & Co., the Union Bank, and Oswald Seal & Co., failed in 1847. The records preserved in the High Court archives give us a very good idea of the causes of this crash in 1847. Of the twelve directors of the Union Bank four were Indians—Rustomji Cowasji, Dwarkanath Tagore, Prasanna Kumar Tagore and Radha Madhab Banerjee. W. P. Grant, a Director of the Bank, said in reply to a cross examination, "At the Directors' table the names were mentioned and credit was mentioned on these names, and the directors, since there was no objection to granting a credit on those names, granted a credit of 4 lakhs. Radhamadhab (he was a director at that time) was one of the original dissidents. Credit was given on the names not on the shares." After 1847 Bengali businessmen practically withdrew from business in Calcutta

and Indo-British business partnership almost ceased to be a feature of business history. R. H. Tawney says that bankruptcy badly needs its economic historian. A study of bankruptcy records of this period in the Calcutta High Court presents a picture of European business dishonesty which may easily be overdrawn.

Indian capital was not perhaps superabundant. But capital ceased to be capital. Successful traders left trade and got into money-lending or owning of landed estate.

# SOURCES AND PROBLEMS OF BUSINESS HISTORY IN INDIA IN THE SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES

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The student of business history in India is confronted with many difficulties. The pioneer British writers of Indian History had an idea that "in the East the people do not change".<sup>1</sup> Vincent Smith, writing about the economic condition of the Indian people in the reign of Akbar, commented, "the Indian commonalty has no history that can be told".<sup>2</sup> But things have now changed as Stanley Baldwin, the conservative Prime Minister of Britain, declared when the Government of India Act of 1935 was on the legislative anvil, "the unchanging East has changed". We may make an effort to find out the process of the change by reference to the archival records as far as possible.

A study of the commercial development of our country since the seventeenth century would reveal that India occupied no mean position in the commercial world. Sir Thomas Roe, a contemporary of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir, had remarked in relation to the Indian goods exported to the west, "Europe bleedeth to enrich Asia". Later, Bernier, who visited India in the reign of Aurangzib, wrote about Bengal that it was far superior to Egypt in resources and the productivity of her soil. "There is in Bengal," he wrote, "such a quantity of cotton and silks that the kingdom may be called the common store-house for those two kinds of merchandise, not of Hindustan, or the Empire of the Great Mogol only, but all the neighbouring kingdoms and even of Europe. The Dutch have sometimes seven or eight hundred natives employed in their silk factory at Kassem-Bazar where in like manner, the English and other merchants employ proportionate number. Bengal is also the principal emporium of saltpetre. A prodigious quantity is imported from Patna".<sup>3</sup> "The rich exuberance of the country", he continues, "..... has given rise to a proverb in common use among the Portuguese, English and Dutch that the Kingdom of Bengale has a hundred gates open for entrance, but not one for departure."<sup>4</sup>

Any attempt to study the history of the eighteenth century India in its economic aspects must, of necessity, be concerned with the activities of European traders, who had by this time established their position almost as

1. Lane-Pool, Stanley, *Medieval India under Mohammedan Rule* (1903), p. v.

2. Smith, Vincent, A., *Akbar, the Great Mogul* (1926), p. 385.

3. Bernier, Francois, *Travels in the Mughul Empire*, translated by Irving Brook and revised by V.A. Smith (1914), pp. 437-440.

4. *op. cit.*

an essential adjunct to the state, particularly in relation to foreign commerce. From the days of the great Akbar, European settlements had been given facilities of trade between India and the countries overseas. The earliest of them, the Portuguese, had in the eighteenth century discredited themselves by their religious zeal and their harsh treatment of the native population of the country. The Dutch, who appeared at one time to have the greatest commercial hold on the country, had found that the spices of the Indies could be disposed of much more quickly in the European market, yielding enormous gain, and consequently they began to concern themselves more with the rich and profitable trade of the Islands of the Far East than the comparative drudgery of Indo-European commerce. The control and supervision exercised on the French East India Company by the Government of Louis XIV gave it little scope for initiative or independent action. The field accordingly was open to the English East India Company whose prospect in business and trade in this country were, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, brighter than those of any other power.

There is an idea that in the earlier part of the eighteenth century, particularly when Dupleix was the Governor of Chandernagore, the French trade in Bengal exceeded that of any other European power. But this is not borne out by facts. As the Bengal Public Consultations dated 30 July 1739 show, among the ships which arrived in Calcutta in the year were :—

|                           |    |    |
|---------------------------|----|----|
| English                   | .. | 42 |
| French                    | .. | 20 |
| Others (including Indian) | .. | 14 |

The ships that sailed from Calcutta were :

|        |    |    |
|--------|----|----|
| Indian | .. | 38 |
| French | .. | 16 |
| Others | .. | 14 |

These figures would show that English ships were more than double the number of French ships and that they far outnumbered the ships coming from other countries.

The growth of British trade in the early eighteenth century is illustrated by the following statement of Nawab Shuja-uddin Khan in a letter to Khan Dauran at the Imperial Court of Delhi as recorded in the Fort William Consultation :—

“When they first came to this country they petitioned the then Government in a humble manner for liberty to purchase a spot of ground to build a factory house upon, which was no sooner granted but they ran up a strong fort, surrounded it with a ditch which has a communication with the river and mounted a great number of guns upon the walls. They have enticed several merchants and others to go and take protection under them and they collect revenue which amount yearly to Rs. 100,000. In

the reign of Aurangzib their trade never exceeded three ships' cargoes and was well purchased within the province of Bengal. Their investment, of late, have been immoderate and they both import and export other merchants goods in their own names, besides which they rob and plunder and carry great number of King's subjects of both sexes into slavery to their own country which hath obliged me to give very strict orders to all *phousdars* about them. They now begin to farm several towns which, it is feared may in time become strongholds, and consequently a difficult matter for the Government to remove them. It is, therefore, my opinion that if any favours are designed them by the Imperial Court it may be of ill consequences to give them a *phirmaund* for any other privileges than they enjoyed in the reign of Aurangzib."<sup>5</sup>

Agriculture, as ever, formed the most important element of the economy of Bengal. "The province of Bengal," wrote Robert Orme, a contemporary of Lord Clive, in 1752, is the most fertile of any on the universe.<sup>6</sup> The physical condition of the earth, the absence of a particle of stone in some hundreds of miles, formed as they are of alluvial deposits of the Ganges and its tributaries have made the soil rich and fertile. The abundant rain falling on such a soil made cultivation easy and profitable. Though the main stay of the economic life was agriculture, industrially Bengal in the early eighteenth century occupied a distinct position in the world market. In fact before the advent of the industrial revolution in the West the manufactured goods of Bengal, particularly in textile, were in demand in Europe.

Difficulties of communication and immobility of labour had a tendency to make the rural units of Bengal self-sufficient. None the less there was an extensive foreign and inland trade in which both the inhabitants of the province and people from outside participated. The export trade was carried on by a host of merchants who came from the different regions of Europe, as also of Asia. People from other parts of India, the Punjab, Gujarat, Sindh, Agra and Marwar, came to Bengal in search of wealth and many of them were enriched beyond their expectation. Some merchants adventurers like the Seths of Murshidabad settled in the province and became the founders of a mercantile aristocracy.

The places which were most conveniently situated to attract commodity for export were Hijli and Satgaon in West Bengal, Sripur near Dacca, and Chittagong in the East, Piply near Balasore in Orissa, and in Bihar, Patna, which occupied a strategic position on the most important river highway in Eastern India. Fortune soon deserted the old centres of trade like Satgaon and Piply, and in their place Balasore, Hugli and Calcutta came into prominence.

5. *Bengal Public Consultation* 18 June 1733.

6. *Historical Fragments of the Mughal Empire* (London, MDCCCV) p. 404.

Hugli at one time was the most important port for foreign trade. The Mughal Government treated it as the gateway for the entrance and exit of commodities coming into Bengal. Alexander Hamilton, who came to Bengal in 1705-1706, wrote about its extensive foreign trade "because all foreign goods were brought thither for import and all goods of Bengal were brought thither for exportation."

Some idea of the trade which passed through the custom-house at Hugli can be formed from the fact that in 1728 *Syer Baks Bunder* or customs dues on foreign merchandise yielded a revenue of about Rs. 30,000 to the Government at 2½% on the value of goods passing through the port, which therefore were valued at about Rupees 12 lakhs. This revenue was independent of the trade of the English East India Company, whose investment and transaction exceeded those of all other merchants in Bengal.

With the growth of British trade in Bengal in the early eighteenth century, Calcutta soon dwarfed all other centres of foreign trade and was destined to become the most important commercial city not only in Bengal but in the whole of India.

Among inland markets, mention may be made of Patna, Maldah, Kashimbazar, Dacca, and Jagdea in South-East Bengal. The English, the Dutch and the French carried on a competitive trade in all these markets. Among the merchants of the Orient, Mughals, Lahoris and Gujratis are prominently mentioned. The highest officials of the Government, the princes of the blood royal and members of the nobility often appeared as competitors in the field, e.g., Shaista Khan, the Subedar of Bengal and a close relation of Emperor Aurangzib, Azim-ush-Shan, grandson of Aurangzib, who was appointed Subedar of Bengal, and Haji Ahmed, the elder brother of Nawab Alivardi Khan.

Though we find reference to production based on a factory system, e.g., the *karkhanas*, in the works of Indian and foreign writers, the economy of Bengal was essentially based on a system of almost self-sufficient villages where the cultivators and the weavers pursued their eternal avocation with the little money that filtered into their hands through a number of middlemen who stood between them and the big merchants.

The main articles of export were cotton and silk goods, raw silk, salt, petre, sugar, opium, indigo, pepper, ginger, turmeric, ghee, oil, lac, wax, spices and rice. There are also references to the export of tea but this article was, in the eighteenth century, brought from China and later reshipped to Europe.

Among imports, bullion had the highest demand in India. "India like the grave", wrote a British pamphleteer in 1720, "swallows up all (bullion) and makes no return that is the money never returns and it is consumed here

and so vanishes and dies away; serving only to amass more bullion to be carried away till in a word it impoverishes not only England but all Europe.”<sup>7</sup>

The fact is that the export from India far outnumbered the imports. While rich cotton muslin, silk and silk goods, and huge quantity of saltpetre were carried away from India, she was given very little in return. The imports consisted of certain trivial things called ‘rarities’, e.g., a fine knife with an ivory handle, pistols, mirrors with nice frames, etc., which could satisfy the vanity of certain rich men but which could never pay substantially for the exports of India. Speaking generally, it may be said that apart from bullion the most important articles of import were woollen clothing of different types coming under one generic name broad cloth, fabrics of wool called *perpetuanas*, lead, copper, vermilion, madeira wine, fire-arms, looking glasses, etc. But broadcloth as an article of import had very little demand except in Courts frequented by the aristocracy.

The imports thus had little appeal to the common man and the only article by which export could be paid for was bullion. While the import of bullion from 1708 to 1717 amounted to £772,520, it rose to £1,331,529 in the next 10 years.<sup>8</sup>

The banking house of Jagat Seth performed important duties in having the custody of all bullion coming to Bengal and of converting it into current rupees. The House had branches in the mint cities of Dacca and Patna in Bengal and agencies in many parts of India. The financial prestige of the House was raised to such a high pitch by Manikchand, the friend and financier of Nawab Murshidkuli Khan, and Fateh Chand, the nephew of Manikchand, that the Emperor of Delhi conferred on the latter the title of Jagat Seth or Banker of the World about the year 1723. References to their wealth were made in the political writings and speeches in England throughout the eighteenth century. Burke once spoke of the transactions of the House of Jagat Seth as being similar to those of the Bank of England.<sup>9</sup>

The comparison of the House of Jagat Seth with the Bank of England was very appropriate. Not merely were its financial transactions extensive but it performed for the Government of Bengal many of the functions which the Bank of England used to render to the Government of Britain in the eighteenth century. The interests of the House of Jagat Seth were so closely connected with those of the Government of Bengal that when in 1730 a demand on the English was made by Fateh Chand Jagat Seth, Nawab Suja Khan openly declared that “Fateh Chand’s estate was esteemed as the King’s treasury.”

This banking house controlled the purchase of bullion, and the huge quantity of specie at its disposal facilitated the establishment of the mint of

7. *Trade in India Critically and Calmly Considered*, London, 1720.

8. Balkrishna, *Commercial Relation between India and England* (1924), p. 217.

9. *The Speeches of Edmund Burke*, Vol. IV (London Edition, 1816), p. 342.



Murshidabad. The zamindars paid land revenue to the Government through this banking house. It was largely through this agency that the annual revenue of Bengal was remitted to Delhi by means of drafts and orders drawn on the corresponding firms in Delhi. It regulated the rate of *batta* payable on different kinds of rupees that came to Bengal through the normal course of trade.

The English East India Company had adopted a novel system to control the trade of the country by advancing money to middlemen to purchase silk, cotton and saltpetre in bulk from the actual cultivators of the soil. The *dadni* system, as this was called, used to enable the East India Company to have a vertical control of the trade from the soil of the country up to the export warehouse in Calcutta. It is interesting to note that most of these *dadni* mercants were Hindus, usually of the 'lower castes'.

Looking at the economic position of Bengal as a whole in the early eighteenth century it may be said that there was no dearth of capital in Bengal, though there was little indication of capitalistic enterprises. The indigenous banking was ever dependent on the credit of particular individuals and did not adopt itself to the principle of Joint Stock that had given so great a stimulus to the contemporary commercial enterprises in England. There was also lack of scientific approach for the development and improvement of industries and manufactured goods. Both the Government and the people appeared to be indifferent to the changes that were taking place in the world outside. This atmosphere of complacency brought about a condition of stagnation and contained, in truth, the seeds of economic and political decay in India, while fundamental and extensive changes were taking place in the productive system of the West, which took full advantage of the industrial revolution.

# SOURCES AND PROBLEMS OF BUSINESS HISTORY IN INDIA IN THE MODERN PERIOD

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## I

Many scholars, especially of an older generation, have worked on the records of the East India Company relating both to the Company's East India trade and to the factory establishments in its settlements in India. These records became Governmental when the Crown's rule superseded the Company's. Scholars working on this trade and business have used the archives in the India Office Library in England and other archives preserved and made available in India, subject to official rules.

In this brief note, I would like to sketch the sources and problems of business history in the modern period, and in so far as they relate to records accumulated by private business and trading houses with the rise of organised industry in India. This period may be said to commence around the middle of the last century, when industry and trade gradually came to be organised on modern lines and business houses began to keep proper accounts and correspondence. The spread of industry and trade in the second half of the last century over a wider part of the country and the enactment of a series of laws pertaining to factories, industrial labour, plantations, company taxation, import and export trade, etc., increased the volume of the records. The volume must have swelled in the present century.

Sources of Indian business records in what may be called the modern period in the above sense may be divided into primary and secondary. Primary sources are the business houses themselves. To begin with, these were mostly British-owned and controlled, whether as companies registered in India or as subsidiaries of sterling companies. To the extent that these were mainly responsible for the development of business and industry in India, their archives should be containing valuable historical material in these fields. But in the very nature of the development some of the archives could not be in India. Mention may be made of shipping, for instance. The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company had a large share in the trade of the Indian Ocean, but a good part of the material relating to their Eastern trade can perhaps be found only in England. In the case of managing agency houses, however, the records are likely to have been kept in India. To mention only one, Andrew Yule and Company, one of the oldest British agency houses, were a pioneer in the development of the coal and jute industries and their papers may still throw more light on the history of these industries than we know.

These are only examples of companies which are likely to have preserved their papers and of course there are very many more. Similarly on the Indian side mention may be made of papers that may shed more light on the cotton textile, steel and shipping industries. I refer to such well-known pioneering Indian firms in these fields as the Tata Iron and Steel Company, the Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Company and the Scindia Steam Navigation Company. By the organisation and methods such firms built up, it can be inferred that they have valuable records preserved in their respective fields. But this is largely an inference for the present.

The examples mentioned above are of large joint stock enterprises. Business in certain lines was concentrated in smaller partnership firms. The prominent example is the bullion trade. Gold imports are now a thing of the past, and their organisation is of historical interest anyhow, in a country traditionally reputed as a great gold absorber. No adequate history of this business exists. There must be material in the records of houses like Premchand Roychand whose origins go back to the last century. A souvenir published by this firm some years ago gave some indication that exploration may be fruitful.

The secondary sources of business archives are the chambers of commerce and trade associations. As the British administration in India moved gradually from a completely *laissez faire* policy to some sort of regulation of trade and industry through legislation, a large volume of correspondence ensued between representative bodies of the trade and the Governments, Central and Provincial. These bodies published only a part of them in their annual or special reports. To the extent that they could have preserved their records, they form supplementary material to what the business houses themselves might have preserved. Again to illustrate my point, I may mention the volume which Mr. Geoffrey Tyson, former Editor of *Capital*, wrote in 1953 on the occasion of the centenary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. The volume gave some indication of what sort of material may be available with such bodies.

Indian scholars have so far made little use of business archives in India, of course for no fault of theirs. The records are inaccessible. More recently it is possible that some scholars have been allowed access to some records, but generally they have relied on the questionnaire method for eliciting information from business houses. But material thus gathered does not constitute archives.

## II

Among problems of business archives the most fundamental is their location. The first step is to find out where and in what form they exist, how much of them are extant, and what their value is for the economic historian. This means a systematic survey of these papers and the prepa-

ration of some sort of a catalogue. Here we run against the fact that business papers, unlike state papers, are private property. State papers are public property in the last resort and are available in public archives for use, subject to rules framed by authority. Many old business houses are still very much in business, and much more in business today than they were 75 or 100 years ago. They may or may not allow an outsider to look into their papers even for purposes of cataloguing. It is perfectly conceivable that some of them have something to hide.

Assuming that they are willing to let *bona fide* archivists and scholars to examine them, we do not know if physical facilities exist for examining them. Most firms are unlikely to have taken the trouble even to gather the papers in one place. Again, even when firms have no objection to their records being used, there may be no facilities for scholars to work in the firms' own premises, and the firms may not like the records being taken out of their premises.

The alternative is for business houses to make over such records as they are willing to part with—say, subject to the normal 50-year rule to libraries. Since India is a vast country and business houses are themselves extensive, it may be a good idea to make these papers available to regional centres like university libraries; Government record offices and libraries of recognised historical societies.

To illustrate my point, I may mention the collection of business papers relating to the early cotton trade of Lancashire in the John Rylands Library in Manchester. Rylands himself was a textile magnate. More prominent examples can be found in the United States. The New England States are the home of the American textile industry, and libraries in the Boston area have many original records relating to this business. Similarly the records of business houses engaged in the hemp trade are available in the libraries of such States as Kentucky.

### III

Assuming that business archives in India become accessible, how do we use them? Three possible ways in which such archives can be used suggest themselves. They can form supporting material for the economic histories of countries or regions. As an example, I may mention the use made of the records of British foreign exchange banks in Asia by British scholars working on the industrialisation of the Far East. Indirectly by using British consular reports they have also brought to light the business activities of firms like Jardine Matheson of Hong Kong whose business in the last century (and even in the present one) had extensive ramifications all over South East Asia. Some firms like the Bombay-Burmah Trading Company and the Sassoon family had business connections with India as well as South East Asia and their papers would be valuable for any account of regional economic history that includes India in its scope.

The second way in which business records can be used is as material for histories of specific industries, such as coal, steel, textiles, etc. So far in India industrial history has been based almost wholly on published Government reports. To a limited extent scholars have drawn on reports of trade associations but very few have used records of business houses themselves. Two countries in which private business papers have been drawn upon extensively for enriching industrial history are the United States and Japan. I have mentioned earlier the example of the American hemp industry. In Japan scholars, I believe, have drawn upon some of the papers of the old business houses for the period between the Meiji Restoration and the eve of the First World War.

The third way in which business archives can be put to use is for writing histories of individual business houses, which, incidentally, would throw light on the general economic history of the period or on the history of the industry in which the firm was engaged. A number of studies that fall in this category have appeared in England in recent years. Mention may be made of the two volume history of Unilever, which traces the growth of the fat and detergents industry in England and Northern Europe on the one side and in the overseas territories of European powers on the other, like India and the African colonies. Two well-known firms whose histories have recently been published on the basis of house papers are the armament firm of Vickers and the Irish brewing firm of Guinness. On the occasion of its centenary in 1953 the Chartered Bank published a volume based on its papers which threw light on the monetary history of China where the bank was issuing currency for the Government before the Communist Revolution.

I am not aware if any leading Indian firm has published its history in comparable fashion. An exception is the recent history of *Party and Company of Madras* by Mr. Hilton Brown which is based on the company's records. A history of the *Tatas* was completed sometime ago by a member of their staff but has not seen the light of day. The reason given to me privately was that it has not yet been examined by the Board of the firm. The State Bank of India has a project for producing its history (which would largely be the history of the Imperial Bank of India if it were to be history at all), but the project does not seem to have made much headway.

When business houses sponsor their own histories, there is normally a strong public relations angle to the sponsorship. The person whom they engage to write the history may or may not be a historian. He may be hired for his literary qualities, or simply because he is a well-known name, can do the job with reasonable competence, and is available. More serious than the uncertain credentials of the author is the fate of the result when a firm sponsors its own history. Few firms must be expected, to take in India at least, an objective view of their past, for fear of their present

and future. If they do not like the result, they will probably vet it or quietly bury it, and are unlikely to be deterred from doing so simply because the author is a scholar. Indeed a major reason why they would be chary of engaging scholars for the task is that they wish to avoid the embarrassment of having to mete out such treatment to scholars.

It is obvious that some organisation is necessary to explore the possibilities in the realm of business archives in India. There is a Business Archives Council in Britain. The first step for us in India may be the establishment of one such here. It is also obvious that any effort in this field, for reasons I mentioned earlier, cannot succeed without the active co-operation of businessmen and industrialists. A Business Archives Council in India would therefore be a tripartite body, comprising scholars in the field of economic history, representatives of bodies like the National Archives of India, and enlightened industrialists.

In conclusion, I might add that among the reasons why so little attention has been given to business records of the modern period in India is the distance that has traditionally separated the scholar and the administrator from the businessman. The former have tended to avoid contact with the latter, except perhaps in the city of Bombay, where a tradition of contact between scholars and the business houses is established to some extent. With the growth of the prestige of business in India and the interest of economic historians in business history, a new rapport between the two should be possible in the interest of enriching history.

# BUSINESS HISTORY IN INDIA FROM 1600 TO 1900 WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE MARATHA PERIOD

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Business in India during the last three centuries has passed through the three well known stages, the handicraft system, the domestic system, and the factory system. The handicraft and the domestic systems were prevailing in India during the rule of the Mughals and the Marathas, as the period of their supremacy belonged to the pre-industrial era. The factory system was brought in by the British who were responsible for introducing the industrial age in this land. Part of the domestic system too was developed by them during the early career of the East India Company, which had sought permission from the Mughal rulers for trade and establishment of factories at important ports. The motive of the East India Company was to earn profit by business. Later, when it entered politics, it did not give up its business interest. Interest in business and politics have gone hand in hand under the British unlike previous rulers of this land. For the British, who were tauntingly called by Napoleon Bonaparte a "nation of shopkeepers", politics was complementary to business.

Business through these stages has not been uniform throughout India in the past. The handicraft system received impetus at the courts of the Rajas and the Nabobs, and therefore naturally developed at the metropolitan centres. With the disappearance of the courts business at such centres languished.

The villages were mostly self-sufficient. The knowledge of the system prevailing in an area at a given time depends upon availability of source-materials.

Before outlining some aspects of business history of the Maratha period, let us understand what is meant by business history, and then trace the three stages through which it has passed during the centuries under consideration.

Business originally meant "being busy" for a mere livelihood and now it means being busy for profit. In the same way business enterprise originally denoted any organized form of economic activity. It now implies the idea of making profit or securing surplus. Enterprise is the Romanic form of the Teutonic word "undertaking." When we undertake to secure any form of wealth, we have economic activity, and when we undertake to secure profits through some organized activity, we have an undertaking or enterprise.

With the tremendous growth of economic activities in modern times, greater importance is attached to the organizer. In the few preceding decades the head of an undertaking was known as the undertaker, but today, with the restriction of the term to a particular class of undertakings, he is called the entrepreneur. These observations make it clear that business history is not the same as economic history. Business history confines itself to entrepreneurial activity in the past.

The earliest form of business undertaking in which production was carried on is known as the family system. It was all within the family, for the family and by the family. This system came into existence when property sense was well developed, and family relations were primarily property relations. We need not go into the details of this system as the period under consideration had passed this stage very much earlier. In course of time the family system gave rise to the help or hire system, under which the labourer moved from place to place, from house to house, working right at the door of the employer. Carpenters, cobblers, masons and such other itinerant businessmen of today are extant instances of this system. Here the family is still the important group. The consumer supplies the raw material and receives the finished goods, the workman offering labour and sometimes bringing his own tools. This system seems to have been in vogue during the Mughal and the Maratha rule.

With the growth of industry there arose an independent class of workmen who conducted business by themselves. This brought in what is known as the handicraft system. Under this, the workman enters business as an apprentice and aspires to come out as a master craftsman. He is at once an employer and a workman, a capitalist and a labourer. The craftsmen often banded themselves together to form guilds. At the height of their power the guilds in the middle ages of Europe secured political domination. In some parts of the world the handicraft system existed without the guilds. In India, too, during the Mughal and the Maratha periods, it seems that the handicraft system prevailed without the guilds. The caste rules governed the handicrafts.

The next stage of economic development is characterised by the domestic system. Under this system the employer and the workman are different. In the handicraft system, where production is on a small scale, the workman sells his goods directly to the consumer. But, where production has increased beyond the capacity of the individual worker to sell it, to such an extent that the individual worker cannot also sell his wares, some organization is required to place them on the market. The characteristic of the domestic system is that the workman, owning tools, taking family help and also partly living on agriculture, does not dispose of the products of his labour directly to the consumer. Often the raw material he requires is provided to him by the capitalist; he does not purchase it himself.



The handicraft system is said to have suffered a setback with the disappearance of the Rajas and the Nabobs, wherever they were conquered by the British.

The factory system ushered in by the British forms the last phase in the business history of India from 1600 to 1900.

Under the Marathas the handicrafts received great encouragement from the State. From the days of Chhatrapati Shivaji the eighteen *Karkhanas* or departments of the State received special attention. The State manufactured for its own use armament, naval equipment, cloth, camp equipment and a number of art objects. This naturally sustained at the capital cities a variety of business activity. For running these *karkhanas* capital was provided by the State. Outside the sphere of Government, organized business was carried on by merchants dealing in commodities like grain and salt. Grain was transported on pack animals from a place of plenty to one of scarcity as it always yielded good profits. Famine years were a boon to the grain dealers if they could transport it to the affected area. Salt was transported from Konkan to the up-country (*Desha*) during the fair season. Bullock was the commonly used animal for carriages.

Merchants transporting goods to distant places moved in groups, numbering from 500 to 10,000, with arms to defend themselves from wayside robbers. Merchants engaged in transport business were called *laman*. On one occasion, while chasing Raghunathrao Peshwa in Gujarat in 1776, the Maratha army under the command of Parashuram Patwardhan and Haripant Phadke looted a *laman* of 10,000 transport merchants.

Ports which throbbed with trade in Konkan were Cheul in the Kolaba District and Rajapur, Ratnagiri, Malvan and Vengurla in the Ratnagiri District. Bombay developed fast under the British in the eighteenth century and surpassed Surat, the principal centre of trade at the time, and also Haj, the port used by Muslim pilgrims to go to Mecca.

In the latter part of the eighteenth century European goods such as paper, candles, mirrors, lamps, chandeliers, telescope, and watches were in great demand at the Poona Court of the Peshwas. At first these articles were received as presents, but later they were in demand for cash at the courts, because of their machine-made finish. This was actually a danger signal to the handicrafts of the Maratha country that they would soon succumb to machine-made goods of the Europeans in general and of the English in particular. It is interesting to note that, in the account papers of the Peshwas, a sum of Rs. 2,777 is shown against three watches which were purchased. One of them having three hands cost Rs. 635, and it was obviously a wrist watch. It was in the possession of Peshwa Madhavrao I. Telescopes were highly valued because of their utility for the army. One sent from Poona to Miraj cost Rs. 100. Tea, it seems, had already come to attract the attention of the rich. Sakharambapu Bokil

from Poona, the one full wise man of the noted "three and a half wise men" of the day, enjoyed tea. The articles in the possession of Sawai Madhavarao Peshwa included a *chaha dani* or tea pot.

Money lending was a lucrative business. Maharashtrian families of different castes were engaged in this. Money lending and banking went hand in hand. The bankers had their firms in cities, big and small. Money transactions were carried on by means of *hundis*. Persons going to Varanasi (Benares) for pilgrimage preferred to have a *hundi* as a matter of safety. It was cashed at Varanasi on payment of the usual charges. The *hundis* were like the travellers' cheques of today. A banker by name Ganesh Naik Bhawe had his firm at Chhatrapur in Bundelkhand. The Kamavisdar of Bundelkhand, Govinda Balla Kher, sent Government revenue to Poona on many occasions through Bhawe. In Poona there were many engaged in money lending business, Dixit, Bhide, Patwardhan, Sane, Angal, Kshotri, Gujar, Gosavi, etc. Some rich money lenders offered loans to Government. Vallabha Sundar, Balaji Naik, Ramaji Naik Datar, Tapidas Kashidas, Bhokare and others offered loans to Government, the amount varying from Rs. 200,000 to 50,000. Babuji Naika of Baramati near Poona, a close relation of the Peshwas, lent large sums of money to Peshwa Bajirao I, and tried to dominate the politics of the day by virtue of his riches. Brahmendra Swami of Dhavadashi, near Satara, a saint who wielded great influence with Raja Sahu, the Angres and the Peshwas, was a well-known money lender. The rate of interest was as high as 1% per month.

The grain and salt merchants, money lenders and bankers of the Maratha period speak at least partly for the development of capital and organized business. When Brahmins took to money lending, the profit motive, which is the crux of business, cut through the age old caste restriction which prevented them from engaging in any calling other than learning and teaching.

The concept of business of the Maratha nobility is very well expressed in the historic *Ajnapatra*, the letter of command, issued by Ramachandrapant Amatya who was at the court of Sambhaji of Kolhapur. The fifth canto of the work is devoted to the *Sahukars* or merchantmen. Its free translation would run as under. "The merchantmen are an adornment of the kingdom and the Royal fortune. It is they who make available rare goods and thus enrich the State. The very prosperity of the State depends upon them. In times of difficulty they offer loans to Government. It is therefore in the interest of the State to protect them. The merchantmen should be honoured and no one should be allowed to be discourteous to them. With a view to encouraging business in elephants and horses, silk, woollen and *zari* cloth, jewels and ornaments, shops should be opened in different markets and godowns constructed. The merchants should be invited to establish their business at different trade centres. On important

occasions like marriage and annual functions special invitations should be sent to them and they should be duly honoured with gifts of cloth and vessels. Merchants from outside the State should be welcomed. In case they are not willing to come and settle in one's own State, they should be encouraged to carry on trade at their own places. Similarly, overseas traders from different ports should be called to one's own country. The English, the French, the Portuguese and the Dutch are not the normal type of traders. They are powerful and dangerous foreigners. They should therefore be given a place for trade inside a creek and not in a port directly on the coast." The attitude of the Maratha State and its hierarchy towards business is well reflected in this extract.

The published source materials of Maratha History such as the Peshwa Daftar, volumes, the Peshwa Diaries, *Marathyancho Itihasachi Sadhane* and *Aitihasika Lekha Sangraha* are mainly devoted to matters of political importance. A careful study of the archival materials would certainly yield information useful for business history of the Maratha period.

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# SOURCES AND PROBLEMS OF BUSINESS HISTORY IN INDIA FROM 1600 TO 1900

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Business history as a separate branch of historical studies is almost 40 years old and yet there is no unanimity of opinion regarding its meaning and content. It may not be inappropriate for me, therefore, to outline my ideas about the proper subject matter of business history before I set out to explain the sources and problems of Indian Business History from 1600 to 1900. For a number of years after Harvard University decided to teach it as a part of its business administration curriculum, business history was considered synonymous of company history and many stick to this view even today. It may be pointed out, however, that business is a much more comprehensive term than buying and selling or a transaction of goods and services. In its proper sense, business transcends quantifiable economic elements and embraces the world of ideas and theories which might be the results of an imperceptible process of interaction between the business and the society at large. In order to comprehend the transcendental character of business it may be necessary to look at its structural, social and ideational levels. The structural level deals with the companies and the corporations or the individual units and their organization; the social aspect is concerned with the social institutions and the social environments which may have affected the business world; and the ideational level of business covers the thinking and the ideas which had a bearing on business operations in the past.

The division of business into three levels is an artificial device to stress the fact that business is a more complex and comprehensive phenomenon than its physical manifestations indicate it to be. Therefore, it is the duty of the business historian to unfold the story of business in its entirety. Company history or the history of business administration or the decision-making process will provide a partial exposition. Besides these, a true history of business must encompass business instruments, business education, business literature, business thinking, business behaviour, and also attitudes of society towards business. In short, the business historian must look at the business system rather than the business enterprises.

If this description of business history is acceptable, one may have a fairly clear picture of the problems of Indian business history in the modern era. Indian business practices are the product of certain historical forces—probably the most important among these is the interaction of European and Indian businesses. Around 1600 when the Europeans began their

effective penetration of India, Indian businessmen were living in a world of their own. Their practices were conditioned by regional demands and special requirements of a regional economy; their outlook was determined by a set of religious and social ideas. It may be necessary to go into details of all these factors before we could really understand how their coming into contact with the Europeans forced a change in their outlook, their approaches and their practices. There were very important business houses when the Europeans came. The House of Virji Vora at Surat and that of Malaya at Pulicat in the South illustrate the influence of individual businessmen in their age. Very little, if any, work has been done on the operations of these and such other firms which might have existed at that time.

Money lending was an important source of profit in the beginning of our period and in certain parts of India; it has remained an important business even today. Among the money lenders the Jagat Seths in the eastern part of the country were the most influential. On the one hand, their practices illustrate their limited outlook; on the other hand, they signify the role of a commercial class in controlling or helping the foreign merchants in their political and business ventures. The story of these houses has so far been told only in outlines. The same is the case about the East India Agency Houses. True, the study of the latter properly belongs to the British economic history, but the profound influence which they had on the Indian commercial world of the period and the important changes that their operations brought about on the business thinking of the 18th and 19th centuries justify their inclusion in Indian business history. The business historian should also take a close and fresh look on the operations of the European companies in India. While suggesting this, I am not oblivious to the enormous literature which is already available on these companies. But the existing works have dealt with the political aspect of their activities; it is incumbent on the business historian to look at their business operations from a purely business point of view.

After the fall of the agency houses and the virtual exclusion of European companies from the Indian business, the collaboration which was started between Indians and Europeans should also claim our attention. Probably the first venture of this kind was Tagore-Carr Company; but it is probable that there were several other ventures like this. It is necessary to study the beginning, the evolution and the structure of these collaborative ventures. And then, we have to study the most important aspect of our discipline, i.e., the individual firms. After the exit of the East India Company, a number of British companies were started and they have contributed significantly to the evolution of Indian business. At the same time, the latter half of the 19th century witnessed the beginning of many of the Indian managing agency houses which assumed importance later on. The histories of a few firms have recently come out. All of them, with the exception of Tata Iron and Steel Co., are foreign firms. It is time

that the Indian firms bring out their stories, and the business historian can play a positive role in persuading these units to publish their accounts.

Cutting across these individual units of business, we have our own peculiar system of corporate management, i.e. the managing agency system, but no effort has so far been made to analyse its origin and evolution. P. S. Lokanathan's study and the publications of the Central Board of Applied Economic Research cover admirably the operational side of the system but throw little light on the historical aspects. It is essential to go into the original records as far as possible to find out why the system began and how it developed. We cannot at the same time ignore certain business instruments peculiar to India. A detailed study of *hundis*, for example, is yet to be undertaken.

The role of communities in Indian business is another aspect which should claim the attention of a professional historian. It has been pointed out that India produced business communities but did not create a business class as other societies did. But the assumption has never been scientifically tested. The theories of Max Weber and Tawney have come under fire in the western world but in the case of Indian business they are either tacitly or openly accepted. It is necessary to analyse the role of communities and the influence of religion and caste in Indian business. The activities of people like Ranchodlal Chotalal, the founder of the first textile mill in Ahmedabad, who was a Brahmin by caste, should set us thinking whether it was caste and religion which inhibited the evolution of business in India or there were some other factors—economic, political or social.

A fresh look at the government-business relations during the last 100 years or so will be necessary in order to have a proper perspective of the growth of Indian business. The assumption that the British government deliberately put obstacles in the growth of Indian business is too general for a professional historian. While none would like to condone some of the darker aspects of the British policies, one may not completely ignore their positive aspects. Without the establishment of a unified currency, the abolition of customs barriers and the creation of social overheads, Indian business would not have reached the point where it is today. Keeping these things in view, would it not be worthwhile to test the hypothesis whether Indians themselves lacked entrepreneurial initiative which is the *sine qua non* of the growth of business in any society? It is possible that a negative attitude on the part of the Indian toward material ventures was the result of institutional factors. That the British were the villain of the piece is not an adequate explanation. In certain cases, they did give positive encouragement to Indian entrepreneurs. For example, George Hamilton, though a little doubtful about the success of the

Tata ventures, did everything, he could to ensure their success. The fact that the chief captains of Indian Industry were drawn from a certain social class justifies research into the influence of non-economic factors on Indian business. Along with this, works on biographies of important Indian entrepreneurs will be very useful. So far very little work has been done in their field.

The evolution of trade organizations is an important aspect of Indian business history. We have travelled a long way from the medieval guilds and the *mahajans* to the modern chambers of commerce. But we know little about this evolution. The Mahajani system which was the dominant feature of business activities in western India especially in Ahmedabad, has been studied only in outline so far and we have the history of only a few chambers of commerce available. The Chambers of Commerce of Bengal, Madras and Bombay have published their stories. But I am not aware of any study of the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry or the Indian Merchants' Chamber. These are important trade organizations and the study of business history can never be complete without the exposition of their stories.

The above account is fairly representative of the problems which an Indian business historian would face. I have said nothing of the business education because business administration is a fairly young discipline. I have also left out the study of certain professional areas like marketing, accounting, production techniques, etc. because at this stage of the development of business history, this may be quite an impossible task to be achieved by a historian.

It is easier to list the problems of business history, but difficult to point out the sources of it. For the 17th and 18th centuries, the only sources are the records of the European companies and the governmental papers. There are significant materials in the proceedings of the British East India Company, the records of the Dutch East India Company and the archives of the French and Danish Governments. Foster's *English Factories in India* contains valuable information. I would like to forget for the moment, however, these familiar sources of information. It is obvious that the history of business operations in India can never be adequately written without consulting records of business units. These records, unfortunately, are not readily available for two reasons. One, businessmen traditionally have been disinclined to save their records. It is true that some of the European firms have their own archives. Parry's of Madras, for example, have retained their important papers. But most of the firms, especially the Indian units, have not saved theirs. The second difficulty is that even those firms which have saved their documents are not prepared to make them available to professional historians or governmental archives. These difficulties, however, are expected and historians have faced these in almost every society. For example, when the Harvard historians in the

1920's approached business firms for their records, they had difficulty in convincing them of their bonafides and sincerity. This was the case in a society which is more open and much more history-minded. We in India must be prepared to confront greater obstacles.

But it is worthwhile to make efforts either to acquire the available documents from the business units or to persuade them to open their archives to professional historians. I have personal knowledge of the existence of important documents with several families in Ahmedabad. These families are cautious in letting anyone have a look at them. One family, for example, possessing papers of about 100 years, would not let anyone consult them unless one of the brothers would be present. Since these businessmen have very little time to spare for this kind of supervision, those papers have been lying useless for the purposes of study. If these papers are made available they would throw light not only on the evolution of managing agency system in Ahmedabad but also on the working of *mahajans* and the role of communities. In the same way, there are important papers regarding *hundis* in Surat.

The question arises as to what type of documents may be acquired from the business units. The following is a representative sample of papers which may be useful for the writing and study of business history :—

1. All balance sheets.
2. All minutes of the Board meetings.
3. All minutes of the shareholders' meetings.
4. Agreements regarding expansion, collaboration, etc.
5. Organization charts.
6. House magazines, if any.
7. Chairman's speeches.
8. Prospectuses issued for shares and debentures.
9. Financing arrangements.
10. Trust deeds.

It will also be necessary to acquire the private papers of significant personalities especially in the sphere of family business. In certain cases some of these people may be fairly old and they may not have kept any private papers. It may be useful to interview them for a first-hand narrative of the growth of their businesses.

Approaches to these houses for papers or interviews could be made through the respective chambers of commerce, who have healthy relationships with the business units. The National Archives of India or the Historical Records Commission would do well to establish rapport with these organizations since by this it would be easy to win the trust of business houses more easily than through any other agency.



The office of the Registrar of Companies, for example, maintains a file called documents file under Section 310 of the Company Law. These files are open to the public. The Registrar could be approached to save these files for the use of posterity and hand over the older papers if they have any to the archives. In the same way, the office of the Company Law Board could be requested to hand over or save all their papers pertaining to policies.

Detailing the problems of business history and pointing out the sources of information would do little good unless professional historians become alive to the need of studying history of business operations or business units. Unfortunately, business history has remained confined to a few schools of business administration. The historian has looked at business as something grabby, demeaning or not quite respectable. Sometimes it is said that the history of business operations can be best studied by businessmen themselves. It is time we get over these erroneous notions and make available the tools of historical analysis for the study of this very important aspect of human endeavour. I would, therefore, recommend that business history should become a part of the department of History or of Economic History.

The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, which has taken a lead in starting a course in business history, would be prepared to co-operate with any agency in acquiring the documents from business units and encouraging research in the field of this young but important discipline.

# SOURCES AND PROBLEMS OF BUSINESS HISTORY IN INDIA FROM 1600 TO 1900

J. K. MANICKAM

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## GENERAL TREND AND BUSINESS DURING THE PERIOD

From ancient times up to a comparatively modern period, Indian industry, based on handicrafts and concentrated in villages, was on a much higher level than in any other part of the world. Once, the village industries of India were world famous. For centuries, India supplied much of the known world with the finest of cotton, silk and woollen textiles, spices and many other articles.

The cotton industry, for example, was as old as Indian civilization itself and right up to the beginning of the 18th century, India was well known in the civilized world for her fine textile products. The advent of the British in India actually gave a boost to the industry. In the initial stages, the East India Company went all out to give every possible encouragement to this industry and under its patronage, the industry developed to great proportions. This was not, however, done without any selfish motives, since the popularity of the Indian textiles in Europe and England stood so high that the Company must have made immense profit by its trade in Indian cloth. But then came the Industrial Revolution in Europe and the position changed completely. Machines replaced man, and the cheap machine-made goods which were imported into India drove away the more expensive, though in most cases the more artistic and more durable, products of Indian manufacture. This brought about a complete change in the attitude of the Company, and it now began doing everything in its power to prevent Indian goods from selling in the English markets to the detriment of the British products. This had the desired effect of killing the native industries which depended on the demands of the foreign market. The collapse of the industry which brought money to the millions in the villages resulted in the pauperisation of the masses. The industrial population thrown out of employment was forced to fall back on the soil for a living and when the British rule came to an end, we find that more than 75% of the people depended upon land for their livelihood.

While this new order of things resulted in the decadence of the old handicraft industries of the country and the impoverishment of the classes engaged in them, it also witnessed the advent of a new class of merchants and traders among the native population in the country. The opportu-

nities for this, were generated by the rise of new industries, e.g., jute, tea and coal, and the establishment of factories e.g., cotton mills, saw mills, breweries, woollen mills, silk mills, soap factories, tanneries etc., which the foreign trade, now in the hands of the Company, had created. This new mercantile and trading class increased largely in numbers and prosperity with the development and expansion of the Company's trade. The introduction of railways, the improved roads and easy communications, the establishment of post offices even in villages tended to develop every class trade, from the petty retail sales in the urban streets and villages to the wholesale commerce in such articles as were in general demand among the population. Persons of other ancestral professions also cast off their prejudices and freely took to trading in fields suitable to their means and ability.

#### SOURCES OF RECORDS AND PROBLEMS

As regards handicrafts which languished and decayed consequent on the developments referred to above, there does not appear to have been any chance of the records surviving, if any were maintained at all. This is mainly because these crafts had evolved over a period of centuries based on the caste system, the origins of which can be traced back even to the Epic period of the country's history. In the beginning, under this system, the division of society was based on occupation and in the course of time, caste became hereditary and rigid. It came to be based on birth and it became impossible to change one's caste. Under the system, each community stood for itself and everyone followed the occupation of his own forefathers, so that all arts, crafts and sciences were confined to particular castes. While this had an advantage in that skills became highly specialised and developed, being concentrated in the family and handed down from generation to generation, it stood at the same time exposed to the drawback that the knowledge, technique and know-how perfected by a caste group over centuries faced extinction when it gave up its hereditary vocation. The skills and know-how, therefore, perished with the ruin of the handicrafts industry brought about by the advent of the British rule in the country. The basic organisation of the industry being such, there is virtually no chance of business records maintained in respect of the industry during this period, if any, having survived. For the business records relating to this period, we are therefore dependent mainly on the records of the Company and later the British Government.

As mentioned above, the period witnessed the emergence of a new mercantile and commercial community which lost no time in grabbing at the opportunity created by the development of foreign trade under the policies pursued by the Company and the British Government. Some of the leading Indian business houses of today can trace their origins to the latter half of the 19th century. This new mercantile community which

came into existence belonged mainly to one or other of the following three types of organisations :

- (1) Joint Hindu family firms.
- (2) Partnership concerns.
- (3) Joint stock enterprises.

Apart from the Government records from which much data in regard to these business enterprises could be gathered, it could be reasonably expected that the bulk of the records pertaining to the individual businesses or business houses themselves are extant. The following are some of the sources which could be looked into :

- (1) Records of the business houses—
  - (a) which had their origin during this period and have survived to this day;
  - (b) which have come into existence as a result of amalgamation or reorganisation of concerns including those which could trace back their origin to this period; and
  - (c) which have come into existence by taking over the interests of concerns which came into being during this period, but had to be wound up later for some reason or other.
- (2) Records of the various chambers of commerce and trade associations.
- (3) Records of banks and insurance companies.
- (4) Court records relating to winding up of companies, enforcement of contractual obligations, etc.

## SOURCES AND PROBLEMS OF BUSINESS HISTORY OF KERALA FROM 1600 TO 1900

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Politically and economically the period between 1600 to 1900 is generally considered as the modern era of Kerala, or of the Malabar Coast as the Dutch called it. The beginning of 1600 marked the decline of the Portuguese power in the Asian seas and also their monopoly of the pepper trade in Malabar. The period under review witnessed at first the commercial penetration and later the overlordship of Kerala by the Dutch and the English in turn. It would, therefore, be appropriate if we examine generally the circumstances under which the Dutch and the English settled themselves in Kerala.

### THE DUTCH

The Dutch period in Malabar may be said to commence with the appearance of Admiral Steven Vauder Hagen at Calicut in October 1604 and they dominated the scene both politically and economically until they were finally thrown out by the British in 1796. The history of the commercial exploitation of the region by the Dutch is almost the history of the Dutch East India Company (*Algemeen Geocroyeerde Constindische Compagnie*), which was founded on 20 March, 1602. During the 17th century Kerala consisted of four groups of states headed by Travancore, Cochin, the Zamorin of Calicut and the Kolathiri of Cannanore (*Chirakkal*). As the warring rulers and chieftains vied with each other to assert Calicut in 1604 brought about the first political understanding between their supremacy over others, they were always eager to court powerful aliens to gain their ends. The Dutch Admiral's visit to the Zamorin of the Dutch and a ruling prince of India, on account of the latter's anxiety to get his claims to sovereignty over the Malabar waters recognised by the newly arrived Dutch.

The Cochin rulers, alarmed at the growing might of the Zamorin, had already allowed the Portuguese to establish themselves in Cochin, but finding the foreign guests intolerable invited the Dutch to visit their country with an assurance of perpetual friendship and hospitality. This was in 1618, and it cleared the way for the final overthrow of the Portuguese power from Kerala by the Dutch, by about the middle of the 17th Century.

The Dutch entered into treaties with the rulers of Purakkad and Kayamkulam in 1643 as a result of which they were allowed free trade in the two States. They also entered into contracts with the Zamorin

and other small princes of Malabar and undertook to purchase their entire produce, especially pepper. Their great military successes over the Portuguese strongholds at Quilon, Cranganore, Cochin and Cannanore during the years 1658 to 1663 resulted in their possessing in Malabar forts and armed forces. They took advantage of the faction fights that were going on between the native rulers and began to exercise a measure of political power over them. Their monopolistic control of the pepper trade in Malabar to the exclusion of all rival commercial agencies, whether European or Asiatic, was under the circumstances amply justified. But the monopoly could not be maintained for long. The Rani of Attingal allowed the English to establish a factory at Anjengo (1684) and later (1698) to build a fort there. This was in contravention of the treaties she had already entered into with the Dutch according to which she was not to allow any other European nation to trade in her dominion. The Dutch factory at Tangapatan (Tengapattanam) was ransacked by Attingal in 1694, though the Dutch had to be paid compensation for it later. In the same year the English at Anjengo burned the Dutch factory there on a spurious charge. Similarly, the Zamorin at Calicut was instigated by the English to do away with the Dutch. By building forts at Anjengo and Tellicherry, the English had already laid grounds for breaking up of the Dutch monopoly in pepper trade in Kerala. Van Rheeds has described the position thus : "It was found necessary to bind the numerous princes of Malabar to the Company by written agreements. They were made to enter into contracts with the company, some through pressure of arms as Quilon, Betimene (Venmani), Purakkad, the Zamorin and Kolathiri, others out of voluntary friendship as Travancore, Kayamkulam, some Cochin feudatories, the Cochin Raja, Tekkumkur etc. But even with regard to the latter it was not without difficulty that though bound by documents they were made to keep up their engagements without violating their promises and so enable the Company to enjoy the advantages promised. When the dread of the Company's arms was fresh in their minds, they would carry out their promises. But when they got accustomed to the withdrawal of these arms and the enjoyment of peace, they began to evade their promise. Differences arose about the interpretation of treaties."

The years 1753 to 1795 marked the decline and fall of the Dutch in Malabar. By the treaty of Mavelikkara in 1753, the Dutch were to "renounce all alliance with the other chiefs and nobles of Malabar with whom His Highness (the Maharaja of Travancore) might decide to wage war and not to thwart him in this matter in any respect give asylum to any such person or oppose His Highness's enterprises." With the capture of Cochin by the English in 1795, the Dutch power in Malabar disappeared.

#### THE ENGLISH

In Travancore the English Company got a foothold at Viliñjam in 1644 where a factory was erected. In 1684 they got on lease Anjengo from the

Rani of Attingal where they constructed a fort in 1698. In Malabar they established a factory at Calicut with the help of the Zamorin. As their interest in pepper trade increased the English Company pitched upon Tellicherry as a better site than Calicut for the easy purchase of the commodity. However, the English had to face troubles both at the Anjengo and Tellicherry settlements. The Nair aristocracy of Travancore revolted at the growing influence of the Company over the Rani and tried to destroy their monopoly of trade. In April 1721 the English were massacred while they were taking their presents to the Rani. The Anjengo fort was besieged for nearly six months until succour came from Tellicherry. On 25 April 1723 the Rani entered into an agreement with the English whereafter the Company got several additional concessions and privileges.

Tellicherry was administered at this time by a Chief the Company's man on the spot, and a Council, usually styled factors. The settlement was subordinate to Bombay Government. The Court of Directors of the English East India Company took all steps to defend and protect their trade with the Malabar Coast in the face of keen competition from the Dutch and the French.

At first there were only verbal agreements with the native contractors, but on account of frequent disputes the Directors ordered annual adjustments of all accounts. There were policy changes from time to time.

After 1792 the Company was interested in commercial activities not only as merchants but also as the ruler of Malabar. Before 1792 the Company used to secure pepper at cheap rate, but afterwards the higher prices offered by foreign customers served the Company's interests better. In 1793, the Company gave up its pepper monopoly and limited its claims to that part of the produce to which it was entitled as sovereign.

During the period few natives had vessels of their own and all exports from Malabar were sent in foreign vessels. Being backward in manufacture, Malabar could only export raw materials. Commerce was confined to the sea coast; exchange of articles in the interior region was small. There was traffic in slaves also, encouraged by the French at Mahe and the Dutch in Cochin, but the English made efforts to curtail it. The position of the English East India Company can be easily summarised in the following words of an eminent historian "Great resources and sound system worked hand in hand with the political adaptability of commercial men and the English East India Company often bent but never broke."

A mass of materials can be gathered from primary and secondary sources, both indigenous and foreign, on the business history of Kerala. The following list of protocols and treaties as well as agreements concluded between the different rulers and the foreign trading companies, royal proclamations of the Maharajas of Travancore, and other papers would, it is hoped, throw ample light on the commercial, maritime and industrial

activities of Kerala under the influence of foreign traders during 1600-1900. Some published works of value have also been included in the list.

#### COCHIN\*

1. The treaty between His Highness the Raja of Cochin and the Dutch.
2. The treaty between the Dutch Company and the Chieftain of Karapuram.
3. The last treaty between the ruler of Cochin and the Dutch Company, 1769.
4. The first treaty between the English East India Company and the Raja of Cochin.
5. The treaty between the English East India Company and the Raja of Cochin, 1809.
6. The epochal Inter-Portal Trade Convention of 1865, which *inter alia* refers to trade, collection of duties and international commerce.
7. The Resident's letters from 1812 to 1880.
8. His Highness the Raja's Book, 1810-1890.
9. The Dewan's Diary, 1814-1880.
10. The Despatches from the Governors of Fort St. George.
11. Correspondence with the commercial agents of the English East India Company.
12. The Persian letters (Translated).
13. Commercial Book.
14. Administration Reports of the Dewans of Cochin.
15. Administration Reports of the Cochin Port Authority.
16. Records left by Macaulay, Col. Munroe, Hutchinson, Dumond, Oliphant, Dr. Ward, Ballard and Connemara.
17. Malabar Manual.
18. The Cochin State Manual.
19. History of Kerala, Vol. I by K. P. Padmanabha Menon.
20. A Survey of the Dutch Power in Malabar by Dr. T. I. Poonnen.
21. History of Kerala by K. M. Panikkar.
22. Historical Notices of Cochin by Whitehouse.

#### MALABAR

1. Anjengo Consultations, 1744-1810.
2. Tellicherry Consultations, 1725-1795.

\*Records generally available at the Ernakulum Archives.



3. Bombay Commission : First Malabar Commission's Diaries, 1792.
4. Malabar Joint Commission Diary.
5. Joint Commission Report, 1795.
6. Sir John Shore's Minutes, 1793.
7. Malabar Supervisors' Political and Revenue Diary.
8. Malabar Second Commissioner's Political and Revenue Diary and Minutes.
9. Government Committee Diary, 1798.
10. Collectorate Records after 1800.
11. Malabar Treaties by Logan.
12. Travel account of Buchanan, Hamilton, etc.

#### TRAVANCORE\*

1. The treaties of 1723 and 1795 between Travancore and the English East India Company.
2. Proclamation inviting tenders for the sale of cotton in certain areas on a monopoly basis, 1812.
3. Proclamation offering rewards for the seizure of dutiable articles found exported or imported without paying duties, 1812.
4. Encouragement of cotton cultivation by the award of prizes, 1814.
5. Proclamation fixing duty for the sale of arrac and toddy, 1818.
6. Proclamation permitting merchants and others to take *talipattak*, *talipattak* and *silver* bullion to the mint and get them coined as *chakrams*, 1830.
7. Proclamation requiring Europeans who are not British subjects to produce a passport on arrival at Alleppey showing object of their visit to Travancore, 1829.
8. Offering reward to those who would give information regarding the place where Velu Thampi Dalava discovered copper, 1835.
9. Proclamation abolishing certain duties on 165 items of minor articles, 1836.
10. Offering a reward of Rs. 1,000 to those who would give information regarding places from which coal might be extracted, 1833.
11. Abolition of pepper monopoly and fixing of export duty on pepper, 1861.
12. Circulation of British Indian currency notes, 1862.

\*Records available at Archives, Trivandrum.

13. Minting of *chakrams* for merchants in the State Mint, 1863.
14. Notification regarding the prohibition of sale of children, 1861.
15. Circular announcing the introduction of new rupees as per Act XIII of 1862 by the British Indian Government, 1863.
16. Proclamation abolishing the import duty on stationery, 1863.
17. Proclamation regarding reduction of tariff, 1864.
18. Proclamation regarding abolition of the cess on weaving, etc., 1865.
19. Proclamation regarding import duty on salt, 1865.
20. Mutual arrangements among Travancore, Cochin and British India regarding import and export tariff, 1865.
21. Notification by the Governor-General of India in Council admitting the ports of Travancore and Cochin to the privileges of British Indian ports, 1865.
22. Notification regarding the stamping of weights and measures used by the merchants in Trivandrum, 1874.
23. Notification prohibiting the working of Plumbago mines in Nedumangad without the permission of the Government, 1874.
24. Notification regarding mining rights, 1881.

# RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ENGLISH EAST INDIA COMPANY AND INDIAN BUSINESSMEN IN WESTERN INDIA, 1720-1739

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The request to participate in this seminar reached me in August, when classes kept us of the teaching profession fully occupied. This is not therefore a fully worked out paper, but only sets down points which are meant to be expanded in the course of oral delivery. The purpose of the paper is to show what contribution the Maharashtra State Archives could make to this subject. It draws attention to materials which I have not collected with a set purpose but have noticed incidentally, while doing research on the rise of British influence on the West Coast.

*The Bombay Presidency in the Mid-Eighteenth Century* by Holden Furber (Asia Publishing House, 1965) deals with the subject. It comprises the third series of Heras Memorial Lectures, delivered at St. Xavier's College, Bombay, and is based largely on the Dutch archives. But it does not deal thoroughly with the business aspect and devotes considerable space to political matters. Material for further research on the business aspect is provided by the "Diaries" of the Bombay Council which are preserved in the Maharashtra State Archives.

The kind of information supplied by them is as follows :—

(a) Bombay was the Company's headquarters on the West Coast. Besides, it had fortified trading positions at Anjengo, Tellicherry and Surat. It kept trade agents also at Calicut, Karwar and Cambay, and in Sind.

(b) In Bombay the English had dealings with businessmen drawn from among Hindus, Muslims, Parsis and Christians. Among the Hindu merchants of Bombay we find quite a few from Gujarat and Goa.

At Surat we find them dealing with Hindu, Parsi and Muslim businessmen. However, some of these Parsis hailed from Bombay.

At Tellicherry and Anjengo we find them dealing with *chitties*.

(c) Indian businessmen had various kinds of dealings with the English. Some acted as broker and investment agents; other bought goods from the English. Some shipped their cargo in English ships or took English cargo in their ships, while others supplied provisions to the English settlements.

(d) English investment in Malabar was mainly in pepper, cardamom, and cloth. In Surat, Cambay and Sind, it was in various kinds of cloth.

(e) The goods sold by the English to Indians were copper and iron articles and ivory.

(f) These activities forged a bond between the English and Indian businessmen. This is illustrated by a letter of a Gujarati businessman, Govinddass Loldass, to his brother Jagannath, who was being detained by the English for the former's debts : "The Company and Council who have made you prisoners are as our father and mother, there is no shame for a son to be in his father's house. The observance of the Law is only to be found amongst the English. In other nations there is not the same justice, and if they [you?] keep to their laws they will release you. . . We and our forefathers have eaten the Company's bread for four generations. We are therefore by right the Company's servants and must submit to whatever the Company shall please, to whom it belongs to respect justice and their own laws. And considering the services our family has done the Company, they should now protect us on this occasion. . . ."

# AN ECONOMIST'S COMMENTS ON SOURCES AND PROBLEMS OF BUSINESS HISTORY IN INDIA FROM 1600 WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SOUTHERN INDIA

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In this paper which is brief, and meant to raise issues rather than to discuss them, I am viewing historical materials from a general economic perspective to study the entrepreneurial and business characteristics as manifest in the economic evolution of Southern India. The first section presents an economist's approach to the problem. This infant science of Economics has grown in recent years at an accelerated rate and has thrown up a number of issues, interdisciplinary in character. The vital role of the historian in the company of modern economists needs no stress. I am suggesting in this paper approaches to the evaluation, presentation and appraisal of materials of economic character. In the second section, the relative importance of the two related subjects, viz., History and Economics is considered, as specialities and as interdisciplinary subjects. Issues for further examination are brought out. The third section presents illustrative materials<sup>1</sup> in respect of certain problems of trade development in South India. But the accent in this section is on the 19th century, the materials of which have had more fascination for the author than earlier periods. The fourth section pertains to certain inescapably inter-twined economic issues, the study of which in proper perspective could be effective if we could, in the current decade, engage ourselves in a preparatory task. In that section I have ventured, therefore, to mention some possible by-products of the work on business history that is now engaging our attention. The fifth and final section presents a critique and an outlook for future workers on the subject.

The archival materials in the Madras Record Office cover a long period commencing from 1600 and comprise records of the Portuguese, Danish, Dutch, British and French periods. The purpose of the perusal of these records so far had been more often for political appraisal than for other fields of study. In Madras Record Office as elsewhere mostly British Records have been studied profusely. In Madras particularly, the governors of the British periods have drawn considerable attention. On the other hand

1. The illustrations which I have given in the tabular form are perhaps indicative of many more such materials that can be found in the evolution of economic growth of Southern India in particular in the last three centuries. Similar materials are found in respect of the earlier two decades as well.

only a few have used the French sources. (Not till recently it had been the exclusive privilege and predilection of the continental historians to have made use of the Dutch records. Few Indian scholars who had opportunities to visit centres of historical learning in Europe have sought to exploit these resources. Tapan Raychaudhuri's<sup>2</sup> work on the Coromondal is an example of an Indian effort to use Dutch records. I gather that in the University of Delhi, Dr. Chaudhuri is training up others to make use of these Dutch records. This is no doubt very welcome, but for an adequate study of pre-18th century India knowledge not only of Dutch and English but also of Tamil, Telugu and other Dravidian languages is necessary. I am not sure how there could be progress in the collection and use of historical materials on 17th and 18th century trade in South India unless the barriers of language are overcome either by individual or collective effort.

Concepts and definitions have been in use for very long periods of time whatever be the language used. But from time to time, or even at given point of time as between different regions, they had different connotations. I would mention here one such problem. The term trade is being used in economic literature since the days of Adam Smith. West European literature abounds in discussions on trade as a specialized occupation. Smith was also developing certain tools and definitions like "division of labour", "enterprise", "capital" etc. These were of importance to the analysis of the national economy which Adam Smith had prominently in mind. In his time agricultural and the bulk of organised industry remained outside the pale of clear analysis. Since those days and especially in the last two decades, we have multiplied terms and concepts. It was during the same period that separation of the two studies, History and Economics became prominent.

Consequently the study of business history could now well be a major exercise in the exposition of comparable meanings of terms over time. The statistical materials of the past also, for the same reason, require recasting. For instance, researches in the economics of poor countries with reference to trade such as Africa and India have thrown out a few significant findings. Trader is not such a specialised person as is often imagined. Till about 1950 in Africa<sup>3</sup> and 1960 in India<sup>4</sup> the trader in statistical accounts really meant an amalgam of a trader, a banker and perhaps of other economic functionaries as well. Every new term is a subtle feature of a broad old term and we need proper data to understand the usage over time. To consider another example, we may take up a vexed study in Indian agricultural history which is, from a modern angle, partially a trade history. The agriculturist, big or small, as a measure of expecta-

2. Raychaudhuri, Tapan., *Jan Company in Coromondal, 1605-1690—A study in the Inter-relations of European Commerce and Traditional Economics*. The Hague, 1962.

3. Prof. S. H. Frankel, *Royal Commission Report on Africa*.

4. Prof. P. T. Bauer has made special studies of this issue.

tion, and therefore business calculations enter his thought process. To capture them one requires micro-economic data on agriculture. Or else from the economist's point of view, the seemingly agricultural studies would be only broad statements on a variety of issues, without making clear what each of them mean. In the following sections, I have stated rather briefly that we may turn to the family records of Zamindaries, without any fear that we are entering into agricultural economics, instead of business economics. These two have much in common and at the time the records came into being their interdependence cannot be ignored.<sup>5</sup>

Another facet of economic interest is that of quantification. Mathematical economics has scored significant gains in the study of price theory. The models of market whether perfect, monopolistic or any shade in-between have provided a framework of price analysis. If the subject of evolution appeals to the modern economist, it could well be in terms of price theory. Trade practices change from time to time and new market behaviour patterns emerge. Since in a competitive society price is fixed not by any one person, but by all acting conjunctions, data on the behaviour of the numerous consumers, institutional as well as individual, would be necessary. The data we already have from the other source are not adequate and for a proper reconstruction of business history it is essential to find the family records of traders. Table I at p. 116 gives an idea of the source materials for the study of agricultural prices. In the other sections of this paper mention is made of certain other possible sources of information. In other words, the need for data is related to the classification concepts. In the 1930's Dr. Sarada Raju accepted the Marshallian classification of economic activities and accordingly presented the economy of Madras in a framework.<sup>6</sup> But now, with the changed concepts of micro and macro-economic studies which have different sweeps and depths, the same period of 1850-1900 may have to be studied from different angles. Purpose assemblage of data is necessary.<sup>7</sup>

The next immediate task is to identify the forms of economic organisation which have to be studied. Usually the materials are arranged in terms of agriculture, industry, trade, transport communications and government finances. However crude this is in the modern context, the case with which additional materials could be added under the existing classification cannot be denied. In Table II at pp. 117-18 I have given the major sources that could be tapped for records in respect of this study. These would cover the later half of the 18th and the whole of the 19th century.

5. A good study of agricultural labour and connected issues in the Madras Presidency in the 19th century is given in Dharma Kumar's published work. This bears a mark of further expectation.

6. Raju, Sarada, *Economic conditions in the Madras Presidency*, (University of Madras, 1940).

7. Efforts have to be strengthened to assemble private papers of families with trade connections, trading houses etc. Leading Civil Servants of British India like Sir Richard Temple have left their private papers which throw much light on the economic events of the day. One may have to unearth many more such finds.

TABLE I  
PATTERNS OF AGRICULTURAL (PRIMARY) TRADE AND PRICES : A MODEL TABLE FOR MATERIALS (MADRAS)

| District   | Categories     | Sources   | Selected years  | Samples   |
|------------|----------------|---|---|---|
| Chingleput | Ryotwari       | Government records in the district collectors office to be supplemented by private papers of Karnams if available.  | First year of the founding of the Saidapet model farm.      | Efficiency of production in respect of rice and ragi.         |
|            | Zamindari      | Chnampet private papers.  | The year of the award of Zamin and the years of succession. | Three selected villages on the bases of progressive sampling. |
|            | State Farm     | 1. Kinar Village records to be obtained from the families settled over a long time in the village.<br>2. Temple records to supplement item (1) above.<br>3. Office records regarding payment of kist, fines, etc. | ..<br>..<br>..<br>..<br>..                                  | ..<br>..<br>..<br>..<br>..                                    |
|            | Poramboke land | -   | ..  | ..  |



TABLE II

## A TABLE OF SELECTED SOURCES FOR BUSINESS HISTORY OF SOUTHERN INDIA

| Firms  | Year of founding | Nature of business   | Size in terms of capital | Names of important Directors, Partners, etc.                  |
|--|------------------|--|--------------------------|---|
| 1. Handloom Weaving Concerns.                                | N.A.—T.I.        | Business and industry.   | N.A.—T.I.                | N.A.—T.I.   |
| 2. Parry and Company.  | 1768             | Trade by free merchant and later production of many goods.                         | N.A.—T.I.                | Thomas Parry and later John William Dare.                     |
| 3. The Buckingham Mill Company Limited.                      | 16 August 1876   | Business and industry.   | Rs. 7,00,000             | Hon. J.A. Boyson and George L. Chamber.                       |
| 4. Carnatic Mill Coy.  | 30 June 1881     | Spinning & weaving cotton  | Rs. 10,00,000            | "   |
| 5. The Ootacamund Cinchona Planting Association Ltd.         | 7 June 1882      | Cultivating Cinchona   | Rs. 50,000               | N.A.  |
| 6. Spencer and Company, Mount Road.                          | T.I.             | Sales, cigar manufacturing and tobacco.  | T.I.                     | P. Eugene, H. Baksh, A.E. Linch., A.W.D. Cakes and J. Stiven. |
| 7. Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited, Madras.       | T.I.             | Life Insurance Business  | T.I.                     | T.I.  |
| 8. Southern India Alpha Gold Mining Company.                 | 1 May 1874       | Gold mining *  | 6,00,000 (Rs. ?)         | "   |
| 9. The Madras Railway Corporation Society Limited.           | 14 October 1878  | Transport  | Rs. 12,52,500            | T.I.  |
| 10. The Nilgiri Railway Company.                             | 26 February 1866 | Construction of railway  | 25,000                   | T.I.  |
| 11. The Ennore House Co., Ltd.,                              | 1 April 1885     | Housing  |                          | T.I.  |
| 12. The Tuticorin Salt Company Limited.                      | 7 May 1885       | Salt trade   | 95,000 (£ ?)             | T.I.  |
| 13. The Southern Indian Cigar Manufacturing Company Limited. | 28 March 1888    | Cigar manufacturers  | Rs. 250                  | T.I.  |
| 14. Simpson and Company.                                     | 1840             | Coach builders, harness makers, billiard tables manufacturers and motor engineers. | T.I.                     | T.I.  |

N.A.—Not available.

T.I.—To Investigate.

| 1   | 2                | 3                  | 4   | 5   |
|---|------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| 15. Bank of Madras  | 1 July 1843      | T.I.               | Capital—Rs. 60,00,000<br>Reserve Fund—<br>Rs. 40,00,000.                                    | R. C. Walker, Esq. President<br>A.J. York, Esq. of<br>Messrs Parry and Company.<br>D.A. Stuart of Messrs<br>Wilson, President and Com-<br>pany. |
| 16. Arbuthnot and Company   | T.I.             | Bankers and Agents | T.I.  | Patrick Macfaydyen (Europe).<br>R. J. H. Arbuthnot.   |
| 17. Culture Palmer and Com-<br>pany.                                    | T.I.             | T.I.               | T.I.  | Charles Palmer (Lond<br>Robert Gray-Cobham.   |
| 18. The New Oriental Bank<br>Corporation Limited.                       | T.I.             | Banking            | Capital—<br>£1,000,000.<br>Paid up—£571,580.  | George Muoro, Manager.  |
| 19. The National Bank of India  | T.I.             | Do.                | Sub capital—<br>£933,00.<br>Paid up capital—<br>£ 465,280.<br>Reserve fund—<br>£120,000(?). | John Kye, Manager.  |
| 20. Commercial and Land<br>Mortgage Bank Limited                        | 1885             | Do.                | Sub capital—<br>Rs. 10,00,000.<br>Reserve fund—<br>Rs. 2,74,075.                            | T.I.  |
| 21. The National and Grindleys<br>Bank.                                 | 1863             | Do.                | τ   | T.I.  |
| 22. The Mylapore Hindu Per-<br>manent Fund Limited.                     | 14 November 1872 | Do.                | Paid up capital<br>Rs. 5,86,677-6-0   | T.I.  |
| 23. The Puraaswalkam Hindu<br>Jananookula Permanent<br>Society Limited. | 4 February 1873  | Money lending      | Rs. 6,07,000  | T.I.  |
| 24. The Chartered Bank  | 1853             | Do.                | T.I.  | T.I.  |
| 25. The Punjab National Bank  | 1853             | Do.                | T.I.  | T.I.  |
| 26. The Mail (The Spectator)<br>(The Madras Times, 1860)                | T.I.             | T.I.               | T.I.  | T.I.  |

Business history is a term that comprehends three important aspects; (i) the trend of capital accumulation and capital use; (ii) quantitative and qualitative study of each of the trade commodities; and (iii) the markets, competitive or monopolistic. We have so far had no systematic studies covering all these aspects. Of course there are popular studies of the type of Hilton Brown's *Parry's of Madras* (Madras 1954) presenting the story of the company from its foundation in 1788 to the present time. Though such stories of business firms have their own usefulness, deeper study of records is essential to write the business history from the economist's view point.

The following table presents the general conditions of business and industry in the Madras Presidency at the close of the 19th Century.

| Trading Companies                           | No. of Companies | Nature of Business                            | Capital     |
|---|------------------|---|-------------|
| Banking and Loan Associations               | 126              | Banking business and Money lending            | 2,30,55,184 |
| Railway and Tramways                        | 1                | Railway construction                          | 25,00,000   |
| Co-operative Societies                      | 5                | Sale of necessities                           | 1,10,000    |
| Shipping, Landing and Warehousing Companies | 2                | Warehousing business                          | 55,000      |
| Companies for forming Bazaars               | 14               | Trading in different Commodities              | 15,10,000   |
| Mills, presses etc.                         | 22               | Manufacture of cotton, Spinning, weaving etc. | 75,15,000   |
| Planting Companies                          | 4                | Cultivation of chinchona                      | 3,45,000    |
| Other Plantations                           | 3                | Cultivation of commercial crops like pepper   | 6,10,000    |
| Coal Companies                              | 2                | Prospecting coal and other minerals           | 13,58,000   |
| Gold Mining Companies                       | 6                | Exploration and mining of gold                | 18,84,000   |
| Sugar Manufacturing Companies               | 2                | Manufacture and sale of sugar                 | 6,75,000    |
| Miscellaneous Companies                     | 1                | Cosmopolitan provident fund                   | 10,000      |

Source : *Financial and Commercial Statistics for British India*, Part III, 15th issue of Finance and Revenue Accounts. Calcutta, 1894, pp. 417-47.

In the foregoing sections what an economist would like by way of materials has been hinted at. But what the economist has done to assemble them could well be an equally interesting question. In Britain, studies like the "Stock Exchange"<sup>8</sup> and the "Martin's Bank"<sup>9</sup> have been published with the support of business firms and centres of institutional and individual efforts of dedicated scholars. In India, whereas the state as a paternal

8. Morgan, E. V. and Thomas, W. A., *The Stock Exchange*, London 1962.

9. Chandler, George, *Four Countries of Banking as illustrated by the Bankers Customers and Staff associated with the Constituent Banks of Martin's Bank Ltd.*, Vol. I, London, 1964.

institution has done considerable work in preserving such material as they considered "useful", individuals with rare exceptions have done so far very little work. Research workers in the field of long-term economic studies may have to brace themselves to this task, for, in India, this is not yet time to start using materials. The stage is rather that of organising repositories of valuable economic data. The economies of large scale connection and the added usefulness of viable quantities of information cannot be overlooked. As the economists brace themselves to this task, and when they really do so—at least to encourage them to act thus—the Historical Records Commission could become more receptive to professional economists, comments and indulgent in respect of their requirements.

# AN INTEGRATED PATTERN OF COMMERCIAL LIFE IN THE RURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH INDIA DURING THE 17TH-18TH CENTURIES

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## A

The recent trends of historical research on the economic history of India have already made considerable progress on the analysis of the Indian commercial life in pre-British era with special reference to aspects like the process of urbanisation, the role of commercial classes in the cities, and the nature and extent of inland and foreign trade. But hitherto not much attention has been paid to the commercial pattern governing the rural society and to interlinking the latter with the urban, inter-provincial and foreign trade commercial set-up. The lack of proper importance attached to this subject may be partly ascribed to the comparative paucity of contemporary sources as well as the concept to trace the history of business in India in the light of the economic developments of the European countries in the pre-industrial age.

The problems and the methods of the study of the social and commercial history of India *vis-a-vis* Europe of the pre-industrial era are quite different. This is both because of the difference in the extent of the contemporary source-material as well as the variation in the stages of the socio-economic development. The source-material of the 17th-18th century European societies in relation to the growth of the cities and the role played by the business communities in the ports, cities and rural areas is very vast. With the development of the latest research technique and the computation of data on a countrywise or regional scale, it is possible to attempt generalisation and theorisation about the socio-economic problems. Despite some parallelism, the vastness of the Indian sub-continent offers regional variations because of the diversity in the geographical situations and the habits of the tribal peoples settled in different regions. Moreover, in medieval Indian history, the socio-economic and the political forces affected the growth of different regions variously. The scattered source-material is equally unproportional in relation to time and areas. For some regions, ample source-material is forthcoming which shortens the time-gap for gathering consecutive information, while for others the data is sufficiently time-gapped and still others for which practically no source-material exists. The abundance or the paucity of the available source-material with regard to time and areas is bound to affect the methodology in the technique of research so as to avoid sweeping generalisations. Moreover, there is an essential difference in the European *vis-a-vis* Indian concepts of the nature of urbanisation

in the pre-industrial society. Except for the main cities, which too had some rural features and were surrounded by rural areas, the Indian towns (*qasbas*) unlike their European counterparts represented more of rural than urban features. Another factor responsible for the lack of proper attention to the commercial history of India has been the practical difficulty in the technique of research because a research scholar is easily tempted to rely on direct evidence gleaned from the accounts of the travellers, the chronicles, the geographical accounts and the official records of the foreign companies operating in India than to scrutinise varying categories of the regional sources in Persian and the local languages available for the 17-18th centuries.

## B

The sources available for history of business and the rural commercial life are of two-fold level. Firstly, such sources which give a general description of the commercial life of the whole of the north India or particular parts thereof. Secondly, regional sources which provide us with a detailed insight into the commercial pattern.

(a) In the first category may be included the chronicles, provincial and regional histories, the geographical treatises, the accounts of the foreign travellers, the official records of the European companies and the correspondence of their officials. Of the already well-known sources the following deserve special notice : *Ain-i Akbari*, *Mahzar-i-Shah Jahani*, *Kulasat-ul-Tawarikh* by Sujan Rai Bhandari, *Hadiqat-ul-Aqalim* by Murtza Hussain Allah Yar Usmani Belgrami, *Mirat-i-Ahamdi*, *Rizaz-us-Salatin*, *Muntakhab-ul-Lubab* by Khwafi Khan, *Tarikh-i-Muhammad Shahi*, Firqi's *Waqai Alam Shahi*, *Siyar-ul-Mutakhirin*, *Safar Nama-i-Anand Ram Mukhlis*, and *Tarikh-i-Gerukhpur*; the accounts of foreigners like Sebastien Manrique, Bernier, Tavernier, Munucci, Walter Hamilton, Twining, Grose, Alexander Hamilton, Verelest, Bolts, Vinsittat, Pennant, Raper, Valentia, Hodges and Forster; the English and the Dutch Factory Records, and the 'Letters Received' from the servants of the companies; the correspondence of the officials of the English East India Company; and the persian correspondence.<sup>1</sup> The main information available from these sources relate to the general description of the commercial life in the provinces, the specialised crafts and industries in the urban centres, and the nature and the extent of the foreign trade. The description about the inland rural trade and conducting of business transactions is incidental and has to be gleaned from the implied meanings of the statements offered. It is very rarely that description about the prevalence of certain crops and crafts in the villages and the *qasbas* has been grouped along with the main cities of the same province. It may, however, reasonably be asked that whenever the description about particular crafts and industries is available for the main cities of the province only, if any commercial relationship between such cities and the rural *qasbas* of the same province can be established in this respect.

(b) A better picture of the rural commercial life and business transactions is available from the regional sources."<sup>2</sup> As the income to the State from the non-agricultural products levied in the village or a local *mandi* (market) was included under the heading of *sair-jihat*, the village, *tappah* and the *pargana* revenue documents essentially contain much information in this respect. At the same time documents are available which exclusively relate to the State policy towards the local *mandis* and *katras* (commercial centres or markets), the movement of commodities from one *pargana* to another and the activities of the trading classes in the local *katras*. All this information can be collected from the Rajasthan Archives covering the *Subahs* of Ajmer, Malwa, Agra and Delhi; papers of private families with the National Archives of India relating to various *Subahs* of North India and the late 18th century archives preserved in the Secretariat Records Office, Patna (Bihar). The Record offices of Bikaner, Kotah and Udaipur and the libraries in Udaipur specially (Vidyapeeth Collection, Udaipur) possess manuscripts, *Bahis* (ledgers) and documents (viz. *kharitas*, *ruqqas*, *tehrirs*, etc.) comprising correspondence amongst the merchants in Rajasthani language contain vast information on the activities of merchants loans, private debts, rate of interests, and the various commodities involved in business transactions etc. Interesting information is available on the working of craft and mercantile organisations which exerted control over the production and a sale of goods and also established contact with craftsmen in the *qasbas* and cities and exercised control over them. These organisations were recognised by the State and they regulated the trade and industry of the area. They had regular contracts with the *banjaras* who helped to maintain internal and external trade by carrying goods from one place to another. Thus it can be asserted that with proper scrutiny of the regional records, it is possible to construct a reliable picture of the commercial set-up and business transactions in the rural society of the different regions of North India during the 17th-18th centuries.

### C

The concept of village self-sufficiency has been well exploded. In fact in a vast country like India with great diversity of geographical and topographical conditions as well as varying degrees of socio-economic development, it is basically incorrect to talk of an 'Indian Village' in general terms as the stage of an economic development of a village may differ from one *Subah* to another and may even vary from one region to another within a *Subah*. Villages generally grew cash crops and excessive grain crops for export to the local *mandis* or *qasbas* and also responded to the regional prices and their economy was well integrated with that of the *qasbas* and cities. Only villages in the background regions maintained traits of self-sufficiency and subsistence economy. The regional archives point towards the interdependence of groups of adjacent villages on the local *mandis* both for commercial crops and non-agricultural products. Within a *pargana* or a

larger territory, a few commercial centres named *mahals* or *katras* served as links between the villages and the *qasbas*. The *qasba*, apart from serving as the administrative head-quarters of the *pargana*, was also the main commercial centre of the rural areas. However hard it is today a strict line of demarcation between the rural and the urban areas in medieval Indian society, a *qasba* with its jurisdiction over *tappahs*, *katras* and villages was more a part of the rural society than an urban centre. Certain big villages (*muwazai-i-kalan*), *katras* and *qasbas* were known for established *mandis* dealing with grain crops, commercial crop as well as goods and animals. The contemporary evidence points to the establishment of regular *katras* in the *Subahs* of Malwa and Ajmer (Rajasthan) and the prevalence of the *mahals* (here in the commercial sense) in Bihar, which served as the markets in the rural areas.<sup>3</sup> It was equally true of the other regions of North India though the local names for such markets may vary in accordance with the local dialects. These commercial centre served as the *mandis* where the rural population could sell their surplus agricultural and industrial goods for regional consumption as well as export to the main cities. Similarly the rural population would purchase from these *mandis* such commodities not available locally and were imported from the other *mandis* of the cities. Moreover, the grain crops assessed in kind were collected by the official revenue staff (of either the *khalisa* administration or the Jagirdars as the case may be) and transported to such *mandis* for sale to the merchants (*beoparis*).<sup>4</sup> Depending on the nature of the regional products some *mandis* specialised in certain commercial crops or other goods. Ordinarily the *katras* or the *qasbas* serving as the local *mandis* were connected with the other villages and the nearest main city through regular means of communication and indigenous road-works. Similarly in the riverain regions, the villages and the *mandis* were connected with the rural parts either through roads or canal ways.<sup>5</sup> Many a village fell on the land trade routes or on the bank or near the rivers and waterways which served as the commercial depots for the traders.<sup>6</sup> Apart from this, it was an old established Indian practice for the central villages surrounded by a group of small feeding villages to hold weekly or biweekly local *mandis* where the agriculturists and the artisans purchased or exchanged goods on barter system. Certain villages were known for seasonal religious or cultural fairs which equally served the purpose of the local markets.<sup>7</sup> At times, temporary *mandis* were established at open places (known as *hauts* or *peeth* or *peth*) on the bank of a river or near the sacred places on the occasion of the religious fairs.<sup>8</sup> These places were not regular villages or towns but they acquired the status of seasonal *mandis* on permanent basis.

The occupational and artisan classes concentrated in the villages which were well connected through roads with the local *mandi* and the main *qasba*. A small village may comprise only an agricultural population but a big village may be inhabited by certain occupational castes as well.<sup>9</sup> A village may be dominated by the artisans of a single particular occupa-



tional caste like the carpenter-cum-blacksmiths or the gold smiths or the weavers or the dyers or the scent makers or the potters or the shoe-makers etc. Such a village would be known for the craftsmanship of its dominant occupational caste which would also serve the needs of the surrounding villages. The craftsmen usually sold their goods in their residential-cum-shop premises. The production was carried on by the craftsmen with their own tools and equipment on an individual basis. The above mentioned village occupational castes usually bartered their services or goods in return for payment in kind. The occupational workers rendering services to the agriculturists were entitled to the customary share from the crops of the *riaya* and a few of them even got some land in *inam*.<sup>10</sup> In various regions, there were settled tribes who took to agriculture as well as breeding of animals like horses, camels, oxen, buffaloes, cows, sheep and asses etc. They indulged in trade of the animals. They also paid the land revenue and cesses (*sair*) on sale of their goods in terms of animals rather than in cash.<sup>11</sup> There were also vagrant tribes moving from one place to another where good grass and some cultivable land were available. They took to agriculture as well as grass products.<sup>12</sup> In regions where no cultivable land was available, such tribes took to fishing and cutting grass for sale and paid lump sum revenues (*sair*) to the state. Certain Gujar tribes adept in cattle rearing and sale of milk moved from one jungle to another and at times had seasonal movements from the plains to the hilly areas and back. They also paid lump sum revenues (*sair*) to the state.<sup>13</sup> Some of these Gujars purchased and sold petty articles *en route* their seasonal movements.

The commercial pattern of a *qasba* ran on different lines. The Rajasthan Archives give a fairly reliable picture about the commercial life in the *qasbas* in Rajasthan and Malwa.<sup>14</sup> In a *qasba*, normally different craftsmen lived in separate streets. Each craft and trade was concentrated in a separate street where the craftsmen had residential houses, workshops and shops. This may as well happen in a big village where a few occupational craftsmen lived in concentrated pockets. Thus, in the *qasbas*, the shops of the cloth dealers with numerous varieties, thread workers, dyers, tailors, perfume sellers, potters, shoe-makers, washermen, basket makers, iron smiths, oil presser, painters, bangle manufacturers, barbers, utensil-manufacturers, physicians, confectioners, grocers, retail shop keepers, gold smiths, jewellers, *sahukars*, *sarafs* arm-manufacturers were ordinarily located in different lanes. In the main *qasbas* which constituted the headquarters of the chief Zamindars (Rajas etc.) many shops dealing in cloth, armaments, scents, fruits, garlands, betels, bangles, sweet etc. would be located in the main street of the *qasbas*. A number of artisans like the arm-repairers, painters, wood-workers, leather-workers, oil-pressers, wine-manufacturers and shoe-makers would have their shops in the side lanes. This pattern of commercial life may be true only of the big *qasbas* and may not be applicable to all the regions of North India. The concept of commercial life in a *qasba* was essentially governed by the geographical situation, the commercial importance of the

*qasba* and the population residing therein. However, the tendency of the businessmen and craftsmen of the same trade to have consecutively adjacent shops in the lanes was quite wide spread.<sup>15</sup>

The profession of the artisans and the occupational castes was rather hereditary which helped in the acquisition of the proficiency in the art to an admirable degree.<sup>16</sup> Different castes took to different occupations. In trade and commerce, many region in North India developed local guilds or corporations in which local representatives from a big village or group of villages were associated. The Rajasthan sources refer to *panchs*, *panchkul*, *mandapika*, *ghosthi* (or *gosti*), *sangh* and *shershti* (or commercial groups) which clearly show the existence of craft and mercantile organisations.<sup>17</sup> In view of the extraordinary expansion of trade and commerce, inland and foreign, in the 16th-17th centuries and also the fact, that by and large, the villages of North India were regularly integrated with the *qasba* and the city markets, there every possibility that such commercial organisations representing the villages may have been equally known to some other portions of North India. They had some control over the production and sale of the products as well as the conduct of the craftsmen. The 18th century Bengal documents show that in the rural society, the *mundels*, *chaudharies* and the Zamindars had as much jurisdiction over craftsmen and regulation of local trade as over the agricultural and land revenue aspects.<sup>17a</sup> The artisans of different professions, i.e. the weavers, bricklayers, smiths, braziers and handicraftmen were incorporated into their respective bodies, one in each pargana. They elected a chowdree (*chaudhari*) or chief to represent them, and the *mundells* i.e. *muqaddams* of every pargana rendered monthly accounts to the zamindars (in Bengal) in respect of every artificer residing within their limits. The *chaudharis* were to intimate to the zamindar the just and the true rates of all types of labour and the rate per day of all types of labourers and artificers were fixed. These details and those of the shopkeepers were recorded in the Zamindar's ledgers. All artificers were to be licensed. While introducing these regulations, the English East India Company thought that it was reviving the old system of the village communities. Besides that, at the *qasba* level, there were *bazar panchayats* which took voluntary decisions relating to commercial matter.<sup>18</sup> The mercantile organisations and the *bazar panchayats* made voluntary charitable contributions to the religious institutions or holy persons either by levying a tax on the sale of articles or a cess per shop in a particular village or a *qasba*. At some places, these organizations exercised tight control over the services in the temples. At times, they also contributed to public welfare for the construction of wells and roads. The guilds were recognised by the state. They regulated trade and industry of the areas and looked into the payment of the state taxes and customs duties (*sair-jihat*) levied on the commercial goods in accordance with the scheduled rates. In fact, the *chaudhari* of a *mandi* served as the link between the local businessmen and the state.<sup>19</sup> The *chaudhari* was responsible for the payment of the revenues and worked under the supervision of the *amin wa darogha-i-sair*.<sup>20</sup>

The trading communities had a network of establishments in the rural and the urban commercial centres thereby linking the rural commercial life both with the urban and international trade. Apart from the wealthy merchants settled in the main cities and the ports, known as *sahus* or *sahukars* and *kothiwalas* (bankers), who carried on import and export business on a large scale and are quite well known, there were merchants of varying financial levels settled in the *qasba* who indulged mostly in inland trade though a few of them also carried on foreign trade. In a large *qasba*, the shops of the merchants surrounded by those of the *banjaras* (caravan merchants) were located in the central street. The agents of the wealthy city merchants and of the foreign trading companies were in contact with the brokers (*dalals*) and the local *qasba* merchants for acquiring the needed commodities. The Rajasthan Archives mention the names of several merchants who were engaged in trade both within Rajasthan and on inter-Provincial basis.<sup>21</sup> Their agents purchased grain, cash crops as well as industrial goods from the villages the small *qasbas* and the rural *mandis*. They further sold these commodities on profit for consumption within Rajasthan and export to the other Provinces. Similarly they supplied outside commodities to the small *qasbas* and the villages. These merchants, through their agents, provided raw material to the weavers, gold and copper-smiths, glass manufacturers in the *qasbas* and the villages where the above mentioned artisans worked on 'putting out' system. Though working on an individual basis was well known, a considerable number of weavers, dyers and washers worked on the 'putting out' pattern. Thus the craftsmen and the artisans worked both on personal as well as 'putting out' basis. In the latter system, the Indian merchants and the foreign trading Companies which procured industrial goods kept good deal of margin for their profits. The merchants (*saudagaran* or *beoparis*) or their agents would even purchase or sell goods at the individual village level.<sup>22</sup> In riverain regions connected through waterways, the merchants had a network of establishments and agents at various village-ports and inland villages settled by various tribes and clans. They imported and exported goods on a large scale. The 17th century documents show that in certain regions the medieval concept considered the visiting *beoparis* (merchants) as the village guests who served the essential needs of the village community.<sup>23</sup> They were entertained at the expense of the village revenue and the cost of the rations for their entertainment during their stay in the village was debited to the seasonal state revenues. This relieved the villagers of the responsibility of taking to and bringing from the *mandis* the needed goods. The merchants had full apparatus and transportation for this purpose. The margin of profit could not have been very large as to exploit the rural population; otherwise the concept of treating the *beoparis* as village guests could not have existed.

In every Province there were mercantile castes who, except for hawking of peddling, carried on mercantile and commercial transactions. There mercantile castes were known by different names in different Provinces.

Every mercantile caste operated in a certain region with territorial jurisdiction more or less marked. The territorial beats of these commercial castes were based on inherited custom and business. Trade in liquor and vegetables and traffic in cattle were carried on by the occupation castes who were considered comparatively inferior in social status to the other mercantile communities. In South Rajasthan and such other regions where agricultural occupation was not possible, there were pastoral tribes of varying grades who specialised in the breeding and rearing of different kinds of animals and birds.<sup>24</sup> They took to breeding of animals like cows, oxen, horses camels, sheep, goats and rearing of hawks, parrots and other birds which were sold to the nobility and other well-to-do classes in the main *qasbas* and the cities. In Rajasthan, the Malani tribe<sup>25</sup> bred cows, oxen and horses, the Rebaris<sup>26</sup> bred camels and the Gayaris<sup>27</sup> reared sheep and goats. Some inferior tribes specialised in catching birds and animals from the jungles, which were sold in the markets. The names of the 17th century pastoral and animal breeding tribes are equally available for the *Subahs* of Thatta, Lahore and Delhi.<sup>28</sup> Apart from this, there were peddling castes which specialised in certain merchandise commodities—petty peddlers and hucksters moving from one village to another. They sold rope, grass mats, petty hardware, earthenware such as pipe-bowls and images meant for decoration and children, *pan* and betel nuts etc. A few of the peddling castes also engaged themselves in cattle trade and traffic in small merchandise on a large scale while moving from one place to another. A few of the medicant classes also acted as roving merchants.<sup>29</sup> The vagrant and gipsy tribes with varying occupations manufactured and carried with them for sale articles of grass, ropes, straw and reeds, matting, coarse sacks for pack animals, and grass brushes used by weavers.<sup>30</sup> They also reared animals like sheep, goats and camels etc. for sale. While staying near the villages, they could also be employed on earthen work, fishing, diving and well-sinking.

The rural mentality was to export commodities to the main *qasbas* and the cities. The rural areas supplied food, commercial crops and industrial goods to army camps and cities. Wherever army camps were stationed, the grain prices of the rural areas rose to a considerable extent.<sup>31</sup> During the normal times too, the regions with surplus grain crops exported them to the deficit regions and even to the foreign countries.<sup>32</sup> In Bengal, people lived on rice and fish and were not used to much of wheat which was exported to Southern India, the Portuguese possessions on the Western Indian coast and abroad. Bengal also exported sugar and wheat to Gujarat. Bengal herself imported wheat from Bihar for further export. Kerala received opium, sugar and rice from Bengal by sea. The provinces of Bihar and Agra imported sugar and rice from Bengal. Gujarat imported food grains from the *Subahs* of Malwa and Ajmer and rice from Malabar and the Deccan. Above all, the rural areas producing cash crops developed a high degree of commercial sense for production. Cotton, sugarcane, oil

seed crops (barring ground nut), dye-yielding crops grown practically all over the country. Though indigo was cultivated in the *Subahs* of Multan, Lahore, Delhi, Malwa, Allahabad and Awadh, it was a highly valued commercial crop grown in Sehwan (*Subah Thatta*), Bayana and Doab (*Subah Agra*), Mewat (*Subahs* of Agra and Ajmer, and Sarkhej (*Subah Gujarat*). The indigo of these places was sent to all parts of India and abroad. The Agra indigo acquired a world fame. Opium was grown in the *Subahs* of Ajmer, Malwa and Bihar. It was in demand all over India. Bengal imported it from Bihar and sent to Kerala and abroad by sea. The Mewar (*Subah Ajmer*) and Malwa opium was in great demand in China, South East Asia, Arabia and Persia. Tobacco introduced in India in the early 17th century was grown all over India and was consumed both in the rural and urban areas. The commercial policy of the Mughal state gave maximum impetus to the growth of the cash crops. With the expansion of the Mughal Empire in the 16th-17th centuries, the growth of the services both military and civil at the centre and in the Provinces, and the heavy expenditure of the state posed new problems. The state needed vast revenues which were possible only with a dynamic approach for an increased agricultural output and highly developed trade and commerce. In the course of the late 16th and 17th centuries, both inland and oversea trade increased at a rapid scale and exercised great impact on the agricultural development as well as rural and urban prosperity. The need for feeding the heavily populated urban centres, the growing population of the commercially developed rural areas and *kashbas* and the military camps led to an ever increasing inter-regional and inter-Provincial dependence for the food grains. The cash crops like indigo, sugar-cane, cotton, oilseeds and opium were in heavy demand for export as finished industrial products to the foreign markets. All this tended to break the parochial village outlook for the production of crops for mere self-consumption and local supply. An Indian village in the developed regions no longer lived in an economic isolation. These changes led to an increase in the land under cultivation and in the volume of agricultural produce. This not only increased the land revenue and the income from the imposition of the sale and customs duties but also earned a favourable balance of trade. The indigo of the Province of Agra was in great demand with the foreign merchants and the trading companies. The indigo business was so lucrative that the Mughal state started giving monopoly of its sale to the contractors (indigo-farmers).<sup>33</sup> The Mughal state would even finance the contractor for purchasing indigo from the various local *mandis* and would enter into an agreement with the latter keeping its stipulated share in the profit of the sale proceeds. The Mughal state would offer quite reasonable terms to the indigo-farmers who in case of little profit would be obliged to return only the state loan. The indigo-farmer had the monopoly of the sale of indigo to the local merchants and the foreign trading Companies. This resulted in the rise of the indigo price and greater returns to the state. Apart from this, the fact that the English and the Dutch East India Companies always competed with each other in purchas-

ing indigo for their foreign markets was equally conducive to the rise in the price. Whenever there was a good indigo crop of fine quality, the wealthy Indian merchants liked to keep up the price by withholding stock for clearance in the ensuing year. The indigo cultivator was also very much alive to the fluctuation in its price and the international demand. This is well illustrated by an incident over the indigo price of 1633 A.D.<sup>34</sup> In this year, the rights of indigo sale were farmed out by the Mughal state to an Indian contractor. Due to the Deccan wars, the Parsian merchants refrained from purchasing the Deccan goods and concentrated on the purchase of the Agra indigo. Consequently the indigo price shot up to Rs. 50/- per (Akbari) maund. In fact, this price was much higher than the preceding or the following years. Ordinarily the English and the Dutch East India Companies preferred to purchase the Agra indigo (here too the Koel i.e. Aligarh rather than Bayana indigo) to those of the other regions. In the face of such a high price of the Agra indigo the English and Dutch companies felt reluctant to purchase. The English Company even considered the possibility of acquiring the direct farming rights from the Mughal state but gave up the idea due to the practical difficulty of dealing with the Indian merchants. Ultimately the two Companies, viz. the English and the Dutch, thought of reaching a mutual agreement abstaining from indigo purchases. As the proposal was initiated at Surat, the indigo cultivators of the Agra Province fearing a slump in the market in the ensuing year immediately uprooted their indigo plants and cultivated other crops instead. Other sources equally reveal how conscious were the indigo and melon growing villages in the territory of *Subah* Thatta to the importance of the export of their commodities to the other regions and international market.<sup>35</sup>

The trade in the industrial products of many a region of North India was well established. Most of the villages and the *qasbas* in the *Subahs* of Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Allahabad, Agra, Delhi, Lahore, Sindh and Kashmir produced a variety of piece goods.<sup>36</sup> The regions of Allahabad manufactured cotton cloth known as *jhonah* and *mibrkul* which was exported to Agra, Delhi and other places. Cotton and silk weaving was done by the peasant families or landless labour class at their leisure seasons. They combined agriculture and weaving. Apart from this, there were the *Chamar* castes who took to leather-working, tanning and weaving. Even though they did whole time weaving job and thought themselves socially upgraded as against the scavengers, they were by and large considered as the village menials. They worked in lieu of a fractional share in the produce of the cultivators though a few *Chamar-Julaha* castes worked as paid artisans. Technically speaking in the social hierarchy, a weaver (known as *julaha* or *tanti* or *paoli*) was an artisan rather than a village menial. The *julaha* as a whole time weaver belonged to a low caste both amongst the Hindus and the Muslims. He was paid by the piece rather than by customary dues. The *julahas* concentrated in certain villages and the *qasbas*. They worked on both individual and 'putting out' system. Though cotton was woven practically all over India, the Provinces of Bengal, Awadh, Lahore and Sindh

exported large quantities of cloth. Various qualities of coarse cotton were woven in Assam and Bengal. The Provinces of Agra and Bihar received raw silk and textiles from Bengal. Agra also imported cotton and cotton textiles from Gujarat and Khandesh. Silk was produced largely in Assam, Bengal, Awadh, Sindh and Kashmir. The Provinces of Bihar, Agra and Gujarat imported raw silk from Bengal. Despite the fact Gujarat imported silk from a long distance, it had large scale silk weaving industry and exported its products to other parts of India. Similarly the *Subahs* of Agra (Fatehpur Sikri), Lahore, Kashmir and the western coast had developed silk weaving industry.

The industrial products of the commercial regions in many a Province of North India were exported to other places. Kashmir manufactured and exported silk cloth, shawls, blankets, woollen cloth on a large scale and of various fine varieties, wooden articles and paper; Sindh—silk cloth, cotton textiles, skin-hides, wooden articles, ivory bangles, gamlace and saltpeter; Lahore—cotton textiles, shawls, blankets and paper (sepecially at Sialkot and surrounding villages); Delhi—shawls, blankets, utensils of copper, brass and other types, paper, *huqqa* (for smoking) and glass vessels, Agra—utensils of copper brass, wooden articles and paper; Allahabad (especially in the Jaunpur Sarkar)—wooden articles, glass vessels, paper, gumlace and needle; Malwa—clothweaving; Awadh—saltpeter, gumlace; Bihar (especially in Sarkar Monghyr)—wooden articles, glass vessels and other domestic utensils, saltpeter, paper, gumlace, iron articles like grid iron, sauce pans, forks and knives; Bengal—muslin, cotton textiles, silk weaving, jute woven cloth and mats; Assam—silk weaving. The Himalayan regions manufactured woollen cloth of various varieties, animal skins, gums, timber, fuel, herbs and fruits. Many of these articles were produced in the other hill regions and forests which covered a considerable portion (nearly half) of North India. Gujarat occupied an extremely important position in the Indian commerce and was known for cotton textiles and silk weaving. Silver was scarce in India. Gold and silver were imported as bullion in exchange for agricultural and industrial products.<sup>37</sup> Ornaments of gold, silver and metals were made all over the country. Iron was extracted in plenty from surface ores and melted in small furnaces near the mining sites practically all over India (excepting the western coast). The agricultural and industrial implements made of wood and iron were manufactured in all the Provinces. Copper and various types of precious stones were available in Rajasthan. Copper was a state monopoly and was exported to other regions of India.<sup>38</sup> The 16th-17th century sources reveal that unlimited quantities of salt were procured from the rock salt at Khukra, Kheora near Shamsabad, and at other places in Sind Sagar Doab (known as Sindhi Salt), *Subah* Lahore.<sup>39</sup> There were salt pits in Thatta (*Subah* Sindh). The Sambar lake and other salt lakes in the deserts of *Subah* Ajmer produced a large quantity of salt.<sup>40</sup> These regions supplied salt all over North India at a very cheap and reasonable price. Salt was scarce in Bengal and

was imported from long distances.<sup>41</sup> The state imposed a regular *abwab* (cesses) on the production of the salt and had a regular Government machinery for its collection.<sup>42</sup> The revenues from salt were usually farmed out to salt contractors.<sup>43</sup> In these regions, the salt extraction and its conveyance to the local *mandis* employed a large number of the rural population. The salt extraction was undertaken by the professional castes. The *alasha-khash* people worked at Kheora and Sindh Sagar Doab whereas the *numias* were experts in the extraction of salt from nitrous soils.<sup>44</sup> Salt formed an extremely important item of the rural trade. It was transported to the distant places by the *banjaras*. Apart from this, there is ample evidence to show that in the 17th-18th centuries, the animal production was luxurious and cheap.<sup>45</sup> There was plenty of cattle wealth, ghee (butter clarified) and butter in all the region of North India. Butter of high quality was produced in Sindh and Multan both for home consumption and export to the other regions. Agra being a great commercial centre imported butter from places along the Jamuna and the Ganges right upto Bihar and Bengal. Thatta (Sindh) bred and exported horses of the quality. During the 18th century, the main commercial classes which operated on an inter-Provincial basis were the Multanis, the Banias, Poggyahs (merchants with turbans from the North-Western regions), Sheikhs, Pathans, Kashmiris, Sannasses, Bettees, Sahukars and Beoparis, all of whom had *dalals* (agents) spread over in the rural and urban centres.<sup>46</sup> They sold their own regional goods and procured goods from other regions on 'putting out' system.

Goods from one place to another were taken by the *kafilas* (caravans) by the wealthy class of merchants known as *banjaras* who maintained supplies between the different parts of the country and to the sea ports for export to the foreign countries.<sup>47</sup> The *banjara* community operated both on short and long distance routes for transportation of goods on fixed charges. They specialised in the carriage of salt, food grains, butter and a few other articles. The *manori* tribe specialised in the transportation of food grains and salt. The *banjaras* carried armed gaurds with them. On behalf of the state, the Zamindars of the regions were required to ensure their free passage in their respective Zamindari jurisdictions.<sup>48</sup> As the *banjara* class kept up the supply pipeline from one place to another and hazarded great risk on the insecure routes, it was well respected in the society. Whenever caravan reached a village or a *qasba*, it was received with great warmth. The Chief Zamindars (*Zamindaran-i Umda*) often offered robes of honour to the *banjara* chiefs on their safe arrival in their territories.<sup>49</sup> Similarly the other *kafilas* carrying iron, indigo and other industrial goods moved from one place to another. The cost of road transportation was quite high. On an average, for grain transportation, it would cost nearly annas 6½ to annas 10 per maund for 100 miles thereby raising the price of grain per maund by 37.4% to 61.8% (on the late 17th century freight rates and prices).<sup>50</sup> The cost of sugar transportation was nearly half. On long distances, the imported articles from Kabul to



Delhi or Agra would cost nearly 4 to 8 or 9 times depending upon the article and for grains (wheat etc.) from Agra to Surat nearly four times the original cost. Sugar, iron and salt would cost half or even less than the food grain transportation. As the rural commercial import and export ran mostly on short distance routes, the transportation charges of food grains and other articles would be much less. Moreover, the *Zamindari* families would carry their goods to the nearby local *mandis* in their own bullock carts. All over North India, the indigenous means of land communication were the *kacha* roads which were developed. Ordinarily, the roads had shady trees on both sides and regular places of halt were provided. At every stop, there was a *sarai* (a pavilioned resthouse) with trees around and wells and tanks and other amenities. Sometimes provisions were also available both for men and cattle. At important roads pillars indicating distance in terms of *karohs* (a *karoh* about 2 to 2.5 miles) were fixed at regular distances. Bridges were constructed on the rivulets and large scale ferry bridges over the main rivers. Though Sher Shah is well known for having constructed a few new roads<sup>51</sup> the *kacha* roads interlinking the villages, *qasbas* and cities are known to have existed throughout the medieval period.<sup>51a</sup> The local Chiefs (*Zamindaran-i Umda*), the other Zamindars, the wealthy Hindu merchants and philanthropists, the commercial guilds and temple organisations helped in the construction and maintenance of the roads and the *sarais*.<sup>51b</sup> The usual means of transport were the bullock carts. In some regions depending upon the local practice and in the semi-desert or hilly tracts, other means of communication were quite common. Asses, dromedaries, horses, mules, hill ponies, goats and porters were used for transportation.<sup>51c</sup> Sometimes, the *banjaras* followed the known pilgrimage routes.<sup>52</sup> They usually avoided the rainy season. Apart from the land routes, goods were transported through navigation on the rivers. As inter-river navigation on a large scale was well established, goods were transported to long distance both on Provincial and inter-Provincial basis.<sup>53</sup> The goods were transported not only from one main city on a river bank to another but the villages and the *qasbas* situated near the rivers equally benefited from this transport system both for the purposes of export and import. The Indus river system connected the rural areas, the main cities of the *Subah* of Lahore, Multan, Sindh and Kashmir. The Jamuna-Ganges river system connected the regions from *Subah* Delhi to Bengal. The Brahmaputra connected Assam and the hilly regions with Bengal. The tributaries and the various waterways attached to the main rivers mostly served the rural areas. There was great commercial traffic through river navigation. This was because of the fact that the cost of the maintenance of cargo-boats was much less as against the ox-driven carts and the freight charges of the river borne goods were much cheaper in comparison to the road transportation. On a long distance the cost of road transportation of cotton goods per maund was nearly 66.66% higher than the river transportation but the insurance rates of the former goods were nearly less than a quarter (around 22.72%) as against the water insurance.<sup>54</sup> However, the

cost of water transport on short distance routes in the rural regions was very light. This was also a quicker means of transport. The big boats and ships for commercial transportation were built in the Provinces of Kashmir, Thatta, Lahore, Allahabad, Bihar, Orissa and Bengal.<sup>55</sup> The seasons were the determining factors for the land and the river traffic. The river navigation was operated by the boatmen who belonged to the *mallah* caste.<sup>56a</sup> The commercial navigation as well as the boat and the shipbuilding craftsmanship absorbed a vital section of the rural population in this vocation. Boats of various kinds and shapes were constructed for commercial purposes. In certain jungles, special kind of trees were grown for the boat-wood. Boat bridges were built over the rivers. The Mughal state maintained its own fleet of boats in all the riverain regions for the purposes of transportation of goods and armies for internal warfare against the recalcitrant Chiefs and tribes.<sup>56</sup> In fact in the riverain tracts, it was obligatory on the part of the local Zamindars who accepted the Mughal sovereignty to keep a fleet of boats for the transportation of the royal goods and armies.<sup>57</sup> This was a part of an agreement which entitled the Zamindars to a conditional Jagir for the maintenance of the boats. The same policy was followed by the 18th Century regional Governments towards the rural Zamindars.

The *bharawala* firms contracted for carriage of goods for inland, Provincial and inter-Provincial trade.<sup>58</sup> There was considerable rural banditry especially in the regions inhabited by the wild or the recalcitrant tribes. In order to cover the risk against rural banditry, the *bimawala* (insurance) companies with head-quarters in the main cities had agents and small establishments in the rural areas, i.e. the *mandis*, *katras* and *qasbas*. These companies insured the transported goods and animals both in the period of peace and trouble at varying specified rates. However, the insurance of land-transported goods extended to a limited number of articles. Grain, salt, wood and cattle were seldom insured. Only valuable goods like opium, iron, sugar, spices, bullion and jewels were insured. The Insurance Companies also undertook to pay the custom duties *en route* and the insurance rates covered these charges as well. Surprisingly even the conditions in the troubled regions or the 18th century chaotic political situation normally did not disturb the commercial operations of the caravan merchants as the recalcitrant tribal chiefs *en route* were more concerned with the exorbitant custom duties they realised and the regular supply of the goods for their own benefit than with any violent robbery. This, of course, led to high insurance premium and transportation rates charged by the *hundiwala* or *bharawala* firms from the owners of the merchandise.<sup>58a</sup> The *sahukars* kept themselves in touch with the political developments in the region that they operated. They were even news reporters to their patron Chief.<sup>58b</sup> The *bima* companies insured goods carried by road or river-borne traffic. Though the freight rates of the river-borne goods were cheaper, the insurance fee was higher in comparison to road transportation as the risk on river transport was much greater because of the chances of loss to the heavily laden cargo-boats. In abnormal times due

to any regional revolt, the insurance rates on the land routes were higher because of the great risk involved. Many a *bima* company kept in their employment carts for road transport and a large number of boats and boatmen along with armed guard. At the same time, safeguard was taken against carrying cash money in the rural areas and hazardous trade routes. The practice of payment of money by means of *hundis* was widely operative in the business circles during the 17th-18th centuries. A *hundi* was a written order of promise to pay the amount at sight or after a stipulated period. The *hundis* were drawn by the *sarafs* who after deducting a nominal discount (of nearly 1%) would direct their agents or counterparts at the place of destination of a trader to make payment. Lakhs of rupees were remitted like this. The *sarafs* in the *qasbas* had established contacts with the *sarafs* in the main cities and the ports. The traders carried on much of their business through the *hundis*. The *hundis* were drawn by the merchants to raise money for the payment of the purchased goods. The discount in such cases varied from place to place ranging between 1% to 10% during the 17th century.<sup>59</sup> The *hundis* which covered the risk of loss or damage of goods in transit was known as *jokhami hundi*. At times, the *hundiwalas* contracted to convey goods at a discount, paying the necessary freight charges and the custom duties levied *en route*.<sup>60</sup> The local *sarafs* and the *mahajans* acted as the bankers. They advanced loan on interest which amounted to 1% to 4.68% per annum in the *qasbas* and upto 5.8% in the cities.<sup>61</sup> For urgent borrowing compound interest called *badotra* was charged.<sup>62</sup> In the towns, houses could also be mortgaged. The *qasba sarafs* would also advance loan to the agriculturists but it seems that in some regions prior state permission was necessary for it.<sup>63</sup> The *chaudharis* who belonged to the Zamindari class<sup>64</sup> and the temple priests<sup>65</sup> would also advance money on loan. In a big village, it was the *mahajan* (or *zargar*) who was a shopkeeper and also helped in commuting the village crops in kind into cash at the scheduled rates for the purposes of revenue assessment.<sup>66</sup> For the latter service, he was entitled to a customary share from the *riaya*. In some regions, the money-lenders (*zargarans*) developed agricultural interests.<sup>67</sup> They would take the land for purposes of development on temporary lease on sharing basis from the revenue free assignees (*aima*) and the *jagirdars*. But this was a malpractice and as such was not encouraged by the Mughal Government.<sup>68</sup> It does not seem that the village *mahajan* acted as a usurer. It was the Zamindari family or the local revenue officials who managed the transportation of grain or commercial crops for sale in a local or *qasba mandi*.<sup>69</sup> In the developed regions, the agents of the *beoparis* would purchase the crops or the industrial goods at the village level.<sup>70</sup> As a matter of fact, during the 17th-18th centuries, rural India had a strong middle class, both upper and lower. Apart from the affluent rural Zamindari families and dignitaries like the *chaudharis*, *tappadars*, *desais* (in Gujarat and Deccan), *sardaran* (the landed chiefs), *arbabans* (in Sindh) and the *taluqdars* who acted as the landed intermediaries<sup>71</sup> and a few of them also as money lenders<sup>72</sup> and revenue-free assignees

(*aima*), there was the rural commercial class of varying types. There were the *sarafs*, *mahajans*, gold smiths and jewellers, the merchants (*saudagars* and *beoparis*), the *banjaras* and such caravan contractors settled in the rural *mandis*, *katras* and *qasbas* who constituted the upper rural middle class. The petty merchants (*beoparis*), the brokers (*dalals*) in the *ganj* and the *mahal* (i.e. market) and the *chaudharis* getting fixed commission on the sale and purchase of the goods and merchandise, the manufacturers, the artisans, the technicians and the village *mahajans* (*zargaran*) formed the lower middle class. A few of the business families, especially the money lenders, started showing interest in the acquisition of agricultural and even Zamindari rights.

During the Mughal age, the state imposed customs duties (*mahsul*) on imported goods and other cesses of various kinds on arts and crafts manufactured by artisans.<sup>73</sup> Cesses imposed on sale and purchase in the rural *qasba* markets covered commodities like articles of food, grains, commercial crops, oil, cloth; skin, medicine, horses, camels, other animals and birds. Under the revenue headings of state income all these cesses formed a part of *sair-jihat* and *sair-ul-wajah*.<sup>74</sup> Notwithstanding the fact that Akbar abolished various miscellaneous cesses (*baj*, *tamgha* and *zakat*)<sup>75</sup>, the transit duties known as *rahdari* and *zakat* (amounting to 2½%) on the merchandise continued to be collected.<sup>76</sup> Jahangir abolished *zakat* on transit goods, river tolls and some other miscellaneous cesses were being realised by the Jagirdars in their territories.<sup>77</sup> Later on, Aurangzeb abolished transit duties (*rahdari*) on gram and vegetables which was being levied per ass-load or cartload or per maund.<sup>78</sup> Levy of some of the cesses (*zakat* and *rahdari*) declared illegal continued in practice in various portions of the Empire throughout the 17th-18th centuries.<sup>79</sup> However, strict orders were issued by the Government to the local officials to refrain from charging *rahdari* from the traders moving in the deficit regions.<sup>80</sup> Aurangzeb fixed *mahsul* on merchandise at 2½% *ad valorem* on the goods carried by the Muslim merchants and 5% on the goods of the Hindu merchants.<sup>81</sup> But after his death (1707 A.D.), the local administration illegally raised the *mahsul* duties to 10% and 15% on the goods of the Muslim and the Hindu merchants respectively.<sup>82</sup> In 1711 A.D., Bahadur Shah ordered the compliance of the rules framed under Aurangzeb.<sup>83</sup> The 17th century sources reveal that the *mahsul* duties were collected both in kind and cash. In the rural areas, the merchants usually paid in kind. It seems that notwithstanding the general royal regulations there were regional schedules (*Dasturulami-i dharat* or *Dastur dharat*) with varying rates on different commodities of production brought into the market.<sup>84</sup> In the riverain regions *mahsul* was levied per boat with specified rate for every kind of merchandise brought by boat.<sup>85</sup> An empty boat was exempted from the payment of *mahsul*. The duties were levied both on the merchants and the customers.<sup>86</sup> In the territories far off from the Central or the Provincial seats of governance, much depended upon the

discretion of the Jagirdars and the rates of *mahsul* varied from one Jagirdar's tenure to that of another.<sup>87</sup> An honest Jagirdar considered it his duty to encourage the merchants and the artisans to import goods and imposed reasonably light customs but an unscrupulous Jagirdar would charge very excessive duties.<sup>88</sup> The Mughal state regulated trade and commerce.<sup>89</sup> A Jagirdar or a *khalisa* officer would adopt conciliatory attitude towards fairminded merchants and artisans but he would impose penalty in the shape of double duties upon the merchandise of the traders and artisans who violated regulations and indulged in blackmarketing activities.<sup>90</sup> The Provincial or the local administration fixed prices of food-stuff on a regional scale.<sup>91</sup> The fixation of the prices was governed by the principle of local supply and demand. In a region where a particular commodity was in excess, its import was forbidden and the commodities in excess were diverted to other regions.<sup>92</sup> For the drought stricken areas or regions with certain deficit commodities, special facilities were provided to the traders. In order to keep down the prices, they were afforded unrestricted movement and were exempted from the *mahsul* duties.<sup>93</sup>

The rural commercial set up in the 18th century practically ran on the same lines as during the 17th century. The presumption that Farrukh Siyar's *Farman* issued in 1717 to the East India Company and the intermittently chaotic situation created by the foreign invasions (Nadir Shah's in 1739 and Ahmad Shah Abdali's campaigns culminating in the final battle of Panipat in 1761) and the internal political disturbances ruined the Indian cottage industries and commercial life is not fully borne out by the vast contemporary regional evidence available for North India. It is true that the grant of permission to the English to carry on duty free trade in Bengal and Gujarat on the annual payment of Rs. 3,000 was a huge revenue loss to the Government.<sup>94</sup> But this did not disrupt the commercial life in the countryside and urban centres. The 17th-18th century sources are well linked up and give a co-ordinated picture of the commercial trends. Of course, some changes occurred in the pattern of production of some of the commercial crops. The export of indigo and sugar declined owing to competition with the West Indies but the important regions known for it in the 17th century retained their importance. The regional position of the commercial crops and the industrial goods was by no means static during the 17th-18th centuries. Though the growth of indigo in many Provinces was well known even earlier, it acquired real international importance during the 17th century. The cultivation of indigo was extended to the Deccan and East Coast while the Bengal indigo also came into prominence. By the end of the 17th century, indigo was exported even from Bengal.<sup>95</sup> During the 16th century, paper was manufactured in the *Subahs* of Lahore and Bihar, but by the end of the 17th century it was also manufactured in Awadh.<sup>96</sup> During the 16th century, opium was grown in Rajasthan, Malwa and Allahabad, but in the course of the 17th century its cultivation was extended to the *Subahs* of Bengal and Bihar.<sup>97</sup>

During the 16th-17th centuries, Bengal had been deficient in salt which had to be imported from great distances. But during the 18th century Bengal managed to manufacture salt of its own and even exported to the other regions.<sup>98</sup>

During the 18th century, the ruination of the Mughal nobility and the aristocracy resulted in lack of patronage to industrial goods. But this affected the state owned *karkhanas* located in the cities rather than the rural commercial production. Owing to political upheavels and chaotic intermissions, there was considerable reshuffling in the territorial jurisdictions of the local Chieftanships and the Zamindari families. Many an upstart Zamindari family acquired new rights on the ashes of the old families. But this did not affect the consumption or patronage of the indigenous rural production for the newly established Zamindari families patronised the local craftsmanship as the old families had done.<sup>99</sup> The Marathas, Jats, Gujars, Rohillas, Afghans and Sikhs did considerable damage to property and caused great insecurity to life.<sup>100</sup> In the affected regions, the mercantile community suffered and the prices of foodstuffs went up.<sup>101</sup> Cotton and silk weaving as well as other industries suffered due to the dearth of the raw material. At times, it resulted in the flight of the weaving class.<sup>102</sup> Insecurity to the goods in transit led to an increase in the rate of interest on loans (even upto 12% p.a.) and also accounted for the increase in the rate of discount on the *hundis*, the freight charges and the insurance fee for the transportation of goods.<sup>103</sup> All the same the disruption caused by the marauding activities referred to above was temporary in nature and affected limited regions. Once the inroads subsided and they were successful in establishing their own Zamindaries and Chieftainships, they were equally interested in restoring law and order and normal commercial life in their respective territories. However, the 18th century sources offer other disquieting features which had crept into commercial life. The worst aspect was the lack of enforcement of the official Mughal practices for the regulation of trade and commerce. In the Mughal territories and the regional governments, the imposition of exorbitant cess (*abwab*) on the merchandise in transit was a growing phenomenon.<sup>104</sup> The local administration imposed *rahdari* and also enhanced the rate of *mahsul* on goods. Some regional governments framed their own trade regulations and levied exorbitant *mahsul* duties.<sup>105</sup> The striking of coins by the independent rulers led to multiplicity in the currency system.<sup>106</sup> At times, the *baniyas* established their own mints.<sup>107</sup> The currency of spurious coins in the markets adversely affected trade and industry.<sup>108</sup> Some times the merchants were exposed to vexatious demands due to the multiplicity of custom houses within a single Province. At times the merchants in their own turn violated trade regulations. In such regions where no strong control was exerted over them, they unduly enhanced the prices of their goods and the local weavers and artisans were unable to get foodstuffs at reasonable prices.<sup>109</sup> In Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, the English East India Company

officials resorted to the enforcement of the 'putting out' system in a high-handed manner which did harm the local rural trade.<sup>110</sup> This equally resulted in the decline in the quality of the manufactured goods. The monopolistic attitude of the East India Company which ruled out competition with other traders, even the Indian merchants, left the artisans and the craftsmen at the mercy of the agents (*gumashtas*) of the Company. The middlemen (*dalals*) and the pykes were often chastised for not procuring goods at the stipulated rates. Wherever possible, the *dalals* themselves resorted to corrupt practice, paying much less than due to the manufacturers and keeping a high margin of profit on sale of articles to the customers. This adversely effected the Indian silk and cotton industries in these regions.

All these features marked a definite deterioration in the commercial life of India in comparison to conditions of the 17th century. It was more marked in the second half of the 18th century than in the earlier phase. However, this was by no means a uniform phenomenon as the extent of normality or decline in rural commercial transactions varied in the different regions of North India. The commercial decline was confined to certain regions than the whole of North India. Moreover, greater strain was felt by the urban commercial centres and inter-Provincial trade than by the rural commercial life. The rural commercial output and its set-up for import-export remained integrated in the Mughal territories and various other independent or semi-independent regional governments under the chief Zamindars (Rajas etc.).<sup>111</sup> Even though the above mentioned abuses operated in the rural areas of these regions in varying degrees, they remain only incidental and secondary for the decline of the rural commercial life. The real causes which led to the decline of the cottage industries and upset the commercial pattern of the rural society of India were the impact of the Industrial Revolution upon Europe, the reaction of the industrialised European society upon Indian trade and Commerce during the later decades of the 18th century and the 19th century. Even before the Industrial era, the English Government was already particular to protect its cotton industry at home. By the Acts of the British Parliament in 1700, 1720 and 1765, the use of printed or dyed calicoes was prohibited, and the British Government imposed high duties on the foreign ships which exported the Indian cotton and silk manufacturers.<sup>112</sup> After the Industrial Revolution England was keen to sell its own manufactured industrial goods. This greatly affected the demand of the Indian goods in the European markets.

Apart from this, after the introduction of the Indian Railways during the 19th Century, the changed pattern of the means of communication equally affected the Indian rural commercial set up. The impact of all these factors upon the Indian rural economy is undeniable but it may still be wondered if the rural commercial production and the cottage industries

were ever strangled. The view about the ever increasing decline of the cottage industries and handicrafts during the course of the 18th and the 19th centuries has been mostly exaggerated. The trade with the neighbouring countries especially Central Asia and the middle Asian countries is a continued feature throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.<sup>113</sup> The misuse of the English political authority in India as a part of the British colonial policy and the competition of the Indian trade with the French and the Dutch trade in South East Asia<sup>114</sup> did effect the Indian foreign trade but it gave a new trend to the internal trade. The local rural commercial production found new avenues in the Provincial markets within the sub-continent which greatly compensated the comparative loss of the foreign trade in respect of cottage industries and handicrafts.<sup>115</sup> Notwithstanding the harassment caused to the artisans during the 18th century in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa by the officials of the English East India Company as well as the tussle between the local merchants and the agents (*gumashtas*) of the East India Company for the priority of claims over the producing class and consuming markets, the English policy became more practical for the sustenance and regulation of the Indian subcontinental trade. With the gradual consolidation of the British rule in India during the course of the 19th century, the internal trading rules were enforced for the regulation of the local and inter-Provincial trade and commerce which helped the rural commercial trade to recover from the strains it had suffered during the chaotic 18th century period.<sup>116</sup>

#### NOTES

| <i>Abbreviation used<br/>in the Notes</i> | <i>Full Title</i>  |
|---|--|
| Ain-i-Akbari<br>(Tr. Blockmann)           | <i>Ain-i-Akbari</i> (Tr. by Blockmann). Vol. I.  |
| Bolts                                     | William Bolts : <i>Considerations on Indian Affairs etc.</i><br>London, 1772.            |
| Br. Museum, Add. Mss.                     | British Museum : <i>Additional Manuscripts.</i>  |
| C.P.C.                                    | <i>The Calender of Persian Correspondence.</i> National<br>Archives of India, New Delhi. |
| Duncan Records                            | A. Shakespear : <i>Selections from the Duncan Records.</i><br>2 Vols. Benaras, 1873 A.D. |



- Firaqi *Waqai-Alam-Shahi* by Kanwar Prem Kishore Firaqi (ed. \*Imtiaz Ali Khan Arshi). Rampur, 1949.
- Foster George Foster : *A journey from Bengal to England etc.* London, 1798.
- Grose John Henry Grose : *Voyage to the East Indies etc.* London, 1766.
- Hamilton Alexander Hamilton : *New Account of the East Indies etc.* 2 Vols. London, 1930.
- Hodges William Hodges : *Travels in India during the years 1780-83.* London. 1793.
- Khwafi Khwafi Khan : *Muntakhabal Lubab* (1731 A.D.). Persian Text, Bib. Ind. Calcutta, 1860-1874 A.D.
- Long John Long : *Selections from unpublished Records of Government for the years 1748-67 relating mainly to the social condition of Bengal with a map of Calcutta in 1784.* Vol. I. Calcutta, 1869.
- Mirat-i-Ahmadi Ali Muhammad Khan : *Mirat-i-Ahmadi* (1761 A.D.). Persian text. 2 Volumes and a Supplement. Baroda, 1927-28 and 1930 A.D.
- M. S. Jahani *Mahzar-i-Shah Jahani* (1634 A.D.) (ed. by Yusuf Mirak). Karachi, 1961.
- N.A.I. National Archives of India, New Delhi.
- Pennant Pennant : *A view of Hindoostan, Eastern Hindustan,* 2 Vols. London, 1798.
- Purchas Samuel Purchas : *Purchas, his pilgrimes.* Hakluyatas Posthumus IV, Glasgow, 1905.
- Raj Archives Rajasthan Archives, Jaipur (now transferred to Bikaner).

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| Raper            | Capt. F. V. Raper : <i>Narrative of a Survey for the purpose of discovering the sources of the Ganges—Brief Survey of the Ganges</i> . Asiatic Researches, XI. Calcutta, 1810. |
| S. N. Mukhlis    | <i>Safar Nama-i-Anand Ram Mukhlis</i> A. H. 1164/1751 A.D. (ed. Sayyid Alhar Ali). Rampur, 1946.   |
| Sujan Rai        | Sujan Rai Bhandari : <i>Khulasatu-i-Tawarikh</i> (1695-96 A.D.) (ed. by Zafar Hasan). Delhi, 1918.   |
| Tod              | James Tod : <i>Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan</i> . 2 Vols. London, 1914.   |
| Traill           | G. W. Traill's <i>Statistical Sketches of Kumaon</i> . Asiatic Researches. Vol. XVI. Calcutta, 1928.   |
| Twining          | Thomas Twining : <i>Travels in India etc.</i> London, 1893.  |
| Valentia         | George Viscount Valentia : <i>Voyages and travels in Indian, Ceylon, etc. (1802-6)</i> , 3 Vols. London, 1809.   |
| Verelst          | Hary Verelst : <i>A view of the Rise, Progress and the Present state of the English Government in Bengal</i> . London, 1772.   |
| Waqiyat-i-Baburi | <i>Waqiyat-i-Baburi</i> . Bibliotheque Nationale, Ms. Paris. Suppl. Pers. 260, Fol. 360a—Babar's Memoirs, Beveridge, III.  |

1. For detailed annotation, see Notes that follow :
2. Ibid.
3. For *Katras* in *Subah* Malwa, see *hukam* of Nur Jahan, dated 17th *Bahman*, 19 R.Y., Jahangir/1623-4, confirming and narrating the duties of Jagjiwan Das s/o Mathura Das in the office of the Qanungo in *Sarkar* Chanderi, *subah* Malwa. The document is from the personal collection of Shri Jagmohan Lal Mathur of Udaipur acquired by the National Archives of India. Also see S. N. Mukhlis, p. 47. For *mahals* as commercial centres, see *Fahrhist-i-tappajat pargana Bhagalpur*, dated Fasli 1179/1771 A.D., Secretariat, Central Record Office, Patna. These documents are attached to the *Raqbabandi* documents of Akbar's reign. Though the nature of these two documents is different, the identical names of the villages, *tappahs* in the *pargana*, show how the practice of noting down the names of the commercial centres (*mahals*) in the *pargana* was inherited from the Mughal age. For a detailed discussion on the importance of the documents, see my paper on *Raqbabandi Documents of Akbar's*

Reign in *The Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Vol. 1961, pp. 55-60. For *ganjs* see *ibid* and C.P.C., Vol. VIII (1788-89), pp. 241-3 relating to Awadh and the territories of the English East India Company. For the rural markets and marts in the hilly regions, see Traill, pp. 192-6.

4. Raj Archives Misc. Persian Letters to state officials and to the officers at the Mughal Court, Regd. No. 57, dated A.H. 1104, 37th R.Y., Aurangzeb/1693 A.D., gives a detailed account of the sale of grain crops at Kobahar, *qasba* Toda Bhim, *subah* Akbarabad, by the *mutasaddis* of the Jagirdar to the merchants (*beoparis*).

5. M. S. Jahani, pp. 18-19, 62, 65-6, 145, 172 & 186-7. The 11 *parganas* of Sehwan (*Subah* Thatta) were well connected through a river and canal system. Four rivers passed through *pargana* Narun. There were four navigational canals (*Guzar*) in Sehwan which interconnected the rural areas. Also for Thatta, see Hamilton, Vol. I, pp. 71-9. For other regions, see Hodges, pp. 26 & 43. This has been a common sight in India till recently especially in such regions which are not very well connected with the main *pacca* roads or the railway system.

6. *Ibid*. Also see Valentia, Vol. I, pp. 90, 181 & 194, Traill, pp. 192-6, giving details of the rural manufacturers and markets in Rohilkhand and Kumaon, and Hodges, p. 33.

7. Sujan Rai, pp. 35-6 & 66-9; Chaturman Saksena's *Chahar Gulshan*, compiled and edited by Chander Bhan Kaist Saksena, A.H. 1173/1759-60 A.D.; MS in Abdus Salam Collection, No. 62/292, Muslim University, Aligarh, fols. 24b-88b; Firaqi, p. 136; Traill, pp. 140-55, 193, 195 and 261-17; and Pennant, Vol. II, p. 283. For the commercial transactions effected in a religious town like Hardwar, see Raper, pp. 450-6.

8. *Ibid*. Also, Hamilton Walter, *Geographical, Statistical Description of Hindoostan and the Adjacent Territories*, London. 1820, Vol. I, p. 38; and Traill, pp. 216-17. This practice has continued in the rural areas right till today.

9. An original *Farman* of Bahadur Shah I, dated 23rd Muharram, 4th R. Y., A.H. 1122/24th March, 1710 A.D., while narrating the *muqaddami* rights of village Annasagar (*pargana* and *Subah* Ajmer), refers to both the agricultural and non-agricultural residents, including professional castes in the village. Of the latter only two castes i.e. the scent-manufacturers (*attars*) and the green-grocers (*badqals*) are mentioned. Also, see *Cavendish Enquiries* by Honble Richard Cavendish, the Superintendent and Police Agent of Jodhpur and Ajmer etc. (1829-31 A.D.). The enquiries related to District Ajmer and were based on village and *pargana*-wise survey. They were written in Persian and the volumes are available at the District Records Office, Ajmer. *Cavendish Enquiries* gives details of the agricultural and non-agricultural classes of all the villages and *parganas* in District Ajmer. The references on the subject in *Waqai-Ranthambore* (1678-80 A.D.), MS. 2242, Asafiya Library, Hyderabad, and the other revenue literature of the 17th-18th centuries correspond with the names of the professional castes mentioned in the *Cavendish Enquiries*. Also see Long, Vol. I, p. 97, Hodges, p. 27, and Valentia, Vol. I, p. 207.

10. *Siyaqnama* (1694-96 A.D.), MS, No. 858, Central Records Office, Hyderabad, fols. 6a-14a; Br. Mus., Add. Mss No. 6603 (Yasin's Glossary). fol. 62a; *Dasturulaml*s No. 676, Central Record Office, Hyderabad, fols. 7b-8b (most of the description is of the Deccan). For Punjab, see Denzil Ibbeston, *Punjab Castes*, Lahore, 1916. pp. 266-338. For Bengal, see Arthur Phillips, *Land Tenures of Lower Bengal*, Calcutta, 1876, pp. 1-40.

11. Sujan Rai, pp. 14-15, 36, 44, 75 & 80 (general description of various regions). For Rajasthan, see Raj Archives. *dastak*, dated 11 Rajab A.H. 1124/1712 A.D., in

Persian Documents, Register 11, No. 525 (North West Rajasthan), and *Vat Sangrah*, fol. 24, which mentions many pastoral classes of gayaris in South Rajasthan. For Sehwan (*subah* Thatta) tribes like Baloch and Sanriha etc., see MS. Jahani, pp. 59-60, 69, 85 & 134. Valentia, Vol. I, p. 222.

12. Ibid. For the migratory habits of the zamindars of the southern *parganas* of Kumaon who indulged in petty trade of the regional products, see Traill, p. 193.

13. Sujan Rai, pp. 63 & 74 (for *subahs* of Multan and Gujarat). The Gujars settled in the *subahs* of Lahore, Delhi and Ajmer (Rajasthan) have been indulging in this trade till recent times.

14. Sujan Rai, pp. 28-33. The following throw light in respect of the *qasbas* in Rajasthan : regarding Udaipur *qasbas*, Man kavi, *Rajvilas* (Hindi), V. S. 1734-1737/1677-78 to 1680-81 A.D. Canto II, VV 92-136, Saraswati Bhandar Library, Udaipur; regarding Jodhpur *qasbas*, *Abhayavilas* (Rajasthan), fol. 17; Bikaner *Gazal* (Rajasthani) in Nahata collection, Bikaner, V.S. 1765/1708-09 A.D., Verses 4-5, 11-8, 27-8, 38, 44-5 and 57-8; and Jaisalmer *Gazal* (Rajasthani) in Nahata collection, Bikaner, V.S. 1822/1765-66 A.D., Verses 70-5.

For the commercial set up in the *qasbas* of the other territories of North India during the 17th century, see Sujan Rai, pp. 28-83, for the 18th century, Valentia Vol. I, pp. 84, 115 & 194, Traill, pp. 146, 149 & 195-6 and Raper pp. 497-8 and 528.

15. For the 18th century, *ibid.* This is still the practice in many a *qasba* in the rural areas of the Panjab.

16. *Waqiyat-i-Baburi*, Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, MS. Pers. 260, fol. 360; *Ain-i-Akbari*, (tr. Blochmann) Vol. I, pp. 93-6. *Bernier's Travels*, A. Constable, London, 1916, Vol. I, p. 259.

17. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. VIII, p. 27 and *Jain Inscriptions* Vol. I, Nov. 726, 837-847 and 879. These inscriptions cover the period from the 12th to the 17th century. *Mandapika* refers to corporate organisations in towns, *gosti* to a managing committee of a corporate body or merchant community, *sangh* to a union, and *Shershti* to a leader of the commercial groups.

17a. Long, Vol. I, para 240, p. 97, proceedings 7 April 1757.

18. Vide official order dated 25th *Ramzan* 14th R.Y., Muhammad Shah, A.H. 1141/1730 A.D. communicating the decision of the *panchayat* of the *bazar* of *qasba* Mohiuddin, (sarkar Bari Doab, *subah* Lahore). From this, it is seen that *panchayat* levied one tanka (Afamgiri) on each shop as voluntary religious donation to Gosain Hira Nath of the Jogi family of Jhakpar (Tehsil Pathankot, District Gurdaspur, Panjab). The family documents are in the possession of the Panjab University, Chandigarh. I am obliged to Dr. J. S. Grewal of the Panjab University for having drawn my attention to the document.

19. *The English Factories in India*, (1618-21) ed. W. Foster, Oxford, 1906-07, pp. 198, 269 and 273-4.

20. Raj Archives, Misc. Persian Letters, No. 249 (Aurangzeb's reign) and No. 355 (25th R.Y. of Aurangzeb, A.H. 1093/1682 A.D.).

21. Raj Archives, *Dastur Komwar* (based on *toji* records), Vol. XV, fol. 85, dated V.S. 1799/1742-43 A.D., and *bhandar* No. 16, *basta* No. 6, V.S. 1821, 1842, 1855-56 & 1863/1764-65, 1785-86, 1798-1800, and 1806-1807 A.D. Letter from Hira Chand to Rai Chand dated 1st bright-half *Kartika*, V.S. 1754-/6 October, 1697 A.D., in the Vidya Pith Collection, Udaipur (the Old Deposited Records, of the State Archives,

Udaipur). Amar Singh II's patta to Devadatta, dated 3rd (dark half) *Posh*, V.S. 1763/10 January, 1707 A.D. The above documents give the names of the Gujarati, Malwai, Punjabi and Kashmiri merchants settled in Rajasthan. Raper, pp. 497-98, mentions that in Kumaon (Srinagar and Almora) the petty shopkeepers served as agent to great *sahukars*, merchants and banking houses engaged in the sale and exchange of merchandise and coins in Najibabad and the Doab.

22. Sujan Rai, pp. 43 & 77. Bahadur Shah I's *Farman* of 1710 A.D. referred to in note 9 above gives details of the transactions of the *beoparis* (merchants) engaged in purchasing scent etc. from village Annasagar (*pargana* and *subah* Ajmer) Raper, *ibid.* Traill, p. 196, states that in Tarai and even in the hilly region of Kumaon, the zamindars were in contact with the merchants of Rampur and the other towns of Rohilkhand. They had established local *mandis* and marts. Only in the isolated regions, the zamindars who indulged in trade were obliged to sell their goods at a low price. However, *Kuth* and other lighter articles were carried by hackeries, buffaloes and *tatoos*. *Kuth* was prepared by people of the Dom caste on the putting-out system.

23. *Khulasatu-s-Siyaq* (1703 A.D.), MS. NAI, pp. 61-3.

24. See note 11 above. Also Raj Archives, P.C., Register V, Letter No. 1587, dated 10th *Zulqada* A.H. 1107/11 June, 1696, A.D. Many such tribes lived in forests around Gagron.

25. Fol. 46 of *Raj Villas* (Hindi), V.S. 1734-37/1677-78 to 1680-81 A.D. MS. No. 354, Sarswati Bhandar Library, Udaipur, gives the physical features and tribes of Mewar.

26. *Jaitpur Bahi*, dated V.S. 1726/1669-1670 A.D. Raj Archives. Also, *bhandar* No. 1, *basta* No. 57, *nathi* (i.e. attached documents) No. 13, all of V.S. 1815/1758-59 A.D., Raj Archives.

27. See note 11 above.

28. Br. Museum, Add. Mss. No. 16859, *Arzidasht-i-Muzaffar Khan*, fols. 2a-4a, 115a & 120b, and letters of Jalal Hissari and Balkrishan Brahman, fols. 28b, 52a-b & 56 (Shah Jahan's reign). Sujan Rai, pp. 17, 60 (Thatta) & 63 (Multan). In Thatta, there were hereditary itinerant fisherman and graziers. Pennant Vol. I, p. 35. The province of Lahore was known for horse studs. Cross breeding with Persian and Arabian horses was practised for the further improvement of the breed. The *subah* of Lahore supplied the best cavalry to the Mughal state. For details, see *ibid.* p. 41. In Tyroot (*subah* Bihar) there were breeding studs of horses of different breeds i.e. Arabs—Tazzies, Turkoman, English, Persian and the cross of these breeds, Valentia Vol. I, p. 22.

29. Raper, pp. 450-52 & 456-7. A large number of Gosains indulged in commercial and agricultural pursuits. Various Hindu pilgrims to the cultural and religious fairs carried on petty trade.

30. See note 11 above. For the 19th century Punjab, see Denzil Ibbetson, *Punjab Castes*, Lahore, 1916, pp. 271-90.

31. Raj Archives, *Akhbarat*, dated 15th *Muharram* 36th R. Y. Aurangzeb/8th October 1692, quotes the price of grains in the camp of Prince Kam Baksh. Wheat : Re. 14 seers; and rice; Re. 15 seers. Various other examples can be quoted.

32. *Ain-i-Akbari* Hamilton MS., Tuebingen University (W. Germany), fols. 150b-242b and Sujan Rai, pp. 28-83.

33. W. Foster (ed), *The English Factories in India (1630-33)* Oxford, (1906-07), pp. 324-25.

34. Ibid.

35. M. S. Jahani, pp. 211-2. Pennant Vol. I, pp. 31-7. Exports from Multan to Persia included cotton, sugar, opium, brimstone, galls, camels and bows.

36. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Hamilton MS., Tuebingen University (W. Germany), fols. 150b-242b. Sujan Rai, pp. 28-83. Raper, Vol. XI, pp. 450-540. Traill, pp. 192-6 (Kumaon manufactures) and p. 226 (exports from the Kumaon hills to the plains). Long, Vol. I, p. 250 (Bengal). Pennant, Vol. I, pp. 50, 71, 79 & 80. Pennant, Vol. II, p. 272 (silk in Assam) and pp. 228-31 & 233 (saltpetre, opium, salt and tobacco and rice in Bihar). Valentia, Vol. I, p. 231 (indigo in Bengal) and pp. 77-8 (silk industry in Bengal). Hodges, p. 27 (handloom industry in Bihar). Hamilton, pp. 71-9 (Thatta).

37. John Van Twist. A General Description of India (1638 A.D.) in Brij Narain, *Indian Economic Life, Lahore*, 1929, pp. 56-57. Under the Indian regulations, the export of gold and silver from India was forbidden. For details regarding the favourable balance of trade, see *ibid* and Balkrishna, *Commercial Relations between England and India (1600-1757)*, London, 1924, pp. 37 & 208.

38. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Br. Museum, Add. Mss. No. 7652, fol. 243a, *Haft Alqim*, Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, MS. suppl. pers. 357, fol. 38b (Bengal). Raj Archives, *Akhbarat* dated 3rd Muharram 10th R.Y. of Aurangzeb, 25 June, 1667 A.D. (*subah* Patna) Ibid, No. 1683, dated 29 Ramzan 24th R.Y. of Aurangzeb/12 October 1681 A.D. states that the discovery of silver in a village of *pargana* Badhnaur (*subah* Malwa) brought an income of Rupees one lakh per year. Sujan Rai, pp. 11, 36, 45, 47 & 49, Traill, pp. 157-8 & 188 (copper iron, lead, coarse mica, sandstone and rock crystal in Kumaon). Raper, p. 511 (Dhanpur copper mines were farmed out for rupees four thousand). Long Vol. I., p. 210 (1760 A.D.) and p. 250 (1761 A.D.) (export of iron and stone plates from Ballasore to Calcutta). Pennant, Vol. I. pp. 18 & 41 (metals and gold in the Punjab), Also, Tod, Vol. II, p. 157.

39. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Br. Museum, MS. 7652, fols. 261a-b. Sujan Rai, p. 75. Salt was extracted in the *subahs* of Gujarat and Thatta, *ibid*, pp. 58-9.

40. Ibid, p. 55.

41. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Br. Museum, Add. Mss. No. 7652, fols. 261a-b.

42. Raj Archives, *Akhbarat* dated 28th Zulqada 24th R.Y. Aurangzeb/20 Dec. 1680 mentions the appointment of Abdul Qadir as the *amin-i-namk* and *faujdar* of *Shamsabad* (*Subah* Lahore) Nos. 4449/1, dated 18 Rabi I, 23rd R.Y. of Aurangzeb/18 April 1680 A.D. and No. 1451/1 dated 20 Rabi I, 24 R.Y. Aurangzeb, Rabi I. 24 R.Y. of Aurangzeb/9 April 1681 A.D. Sujan Rai, pp. 55, 58, 59 & 75.

43. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Br. Museum, Add. Mss. No. 7652, fol. 261a-b, States that merchants purchased Sindh Sagar salt at half to two dams a *man* (maund) and paid duty of one rupee for every 17 mans to the state. Also Sujan Rai, *ibid*.

44. Sujan Rai, p. 75. The *zamindari* of the salt mountains at Kheora and Sindh Sagar belonged to the Janjohia tribe settled in the *parganas* of Chahak, Nandna, Makhiala etc. The salt mountain was also known as Janjohia after the name of the tribe. For *nuntas*, see Lieut. Col. James Skinner, *Tashrih al-Agwam* (1825 A.D.), Br. Museum, Add. Mss. No. 27, 255, fols. 354-b-356a. Also, Duncan Records Vol. II, pp. 12-13, Tod. Vol. II, p. 133.

45. Linschoten states, "an Ox or a Cowe is there to be bought for one *Larijin*, which is as much as a halfe a *Gjlderne*, sheepe, Hens, and other things after the like rate". *The Voyage of John Huyghen Van Linschoten of the East Indies from the Old Translation of 1598* Vol. I. (tr. Aurthur Coke Burnell), London, 1885, pp. 94-5. Thus, the price of an ox or a cow in Bengal in the late 16th century was 7½ annas. For the abundance of cattle, see Sujan Rai, pp. 14-15, 17, 36, 44, 48-9 and 80-2. Hamilton, Vol. I, pp. 73 & 75-7 (Thatta). Pennant, Vol. II, pp. 239-40 (native horses, tatoos, mules, oxen and buffaloes). According to M. S. Jahani, p. 85, in the 17th century, some of the tribes in Sehwan (*subah* Thatta) paid even the land revenue in terms of cattle.

46. Bolts, p. 200 (for merchants operating in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa). Verelst, pp. 113-17. Hodges, p. 80. Pennant, Vol. I, p. 38 states that the *banias* or merchants and bankers of Multan had settlements in all the commercial towns of India. They sent colonists for a certain number of years to the trading towns of Arabia and Persia. They had establishments from Astrakans to the interior parts of the Mughal Empire. Foster, Vol. II, pp. 259-67. Also see N.A.I., Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Sh. 12, Part I, *Short account of the Nouputte Mahajuns of Benaras*, pp. 13-18. The mercantile classes i.e., *sahukars* and *sarafs* etc. settled in Central India and Malwa since the 16th century and established their firms and territorial beats for commercial operation—John Malcolm, *A Memoir of Central India including Malwa etc.*, London, 1823, Vol. II, pp. 159-65.

47. Peter Mundy, *Travels*, London, 1914, Vol. II, pp. 95-6. Tavernier, *Travels in India*, London, 1926, pp. 32-3. Even in the 19th century, Tod. (Vol. II, p. 132) noticed that salt was transported in *tandas* (caravans) of 40,000 head of oxen from Sambher Lake to distant places. Hamilton, Vol. I, pp. 71-5. Raper, pp. 450-4. G.H. Barlow in his letter dated 27th May 1787 to Lord Cornwallis noted that merchants owning goods did not transport them on their own but passed them on to Carriers or *Hundiwalas* who contracted for their transportation and for payment of customs *en route*. Duncan Records, Vol. II, pp. 71-5.

48. For details of the functions of the zamindars, see my paper on "Nature of Land Rights in Mughal India" in *The Journal of Economic and Social History Review*, 1963, No. I, pp. 10-15. Hamilton, p. 73.

49. Hamilton, pp. 72-4.

50. For the details of the freight charges from Agra to Surat on camel-back, see Hague's letter dated 5th October 1620 in *The English Factories in India* (1618-21) pp. 47, 51 & 73-4. In 1656 A.D., the *banjaras* carried saltpetre from Agra to Surat and the cost came to nearly Rs. 2.7 per *man* (*man-i-Shahjahani*) vide *The English factories in India* (1655-60), p. 63, and also Tavernier p. 29. The rates varied according to the commodities, safety *en route* and the season. For transportation in Kumaon in the 18th century, see Traill, pp. 194-5. In the hilly regions, transportation was costlier as goods were carried over the hills by coolies. Merchandise cost 50% to 75% over and above the purchase price in the plains. Also, Purchase. Vol. IV, pp. 268-9. Richard Steel and John Crowther (1615 A.D.) noted that the merchants operating between Lahore and Asfhan (Persia) charged nearly Rs. 120-30 per camel load of pepper and spices. This included the cesses charged at various places. A caravan consisted of nearly 12 to 14 thousand camels and supplied goods to the villages, *qasbas* and the cities that were on the way.

51. Abbas Sarwani, *Tarikh-i-Sher Shahi*, India Office, MS. No. 218, the 219, fol. 109a. *Waqiat-i-Mushtaqi*, Br. Museum. Add. Mss. No. 11, 633, fol. 50a. *Tarikh-i-Daudi*, Aligarh, 1954, p. 217. Sujan Rai, pp. 323-7.

51a. For the maintenance of roads, road pillars, plantation of trees, *Chaubutras* and halting places, *sarais* and bridges on the rivulets and nalas during the 18th century, see Raper, pp. 452-4, 507 & 558; Hodges, 9.28; S. N. Mukhlis, pp. 13, 16 & 106; Firaqi, p. 35, and Valentia, Vol. I, pp. 123-4, 130 & 181.

51b. Purchas, Vol. IV, p. 268. Richard Steel and John Crowther (1615 A.D.) noted the existence of *sarais*, provisions for men and horses etc. after every six or seven *krohs* on the way from Agra to Lahore. *Sarais* were built by Kings and rich men in commemoration of their dear ones. Valentia, Vol. I, pp. 80-1 & 194. Valentia pays tribute to the Mughals for the proper maintenance of roads, *sarais*, wells etc. but regrets that of late (i.e., in the later part of the 18th century), the local zamindars, even when they were paid large allowances were not attending properly to the repair of bridges and roads after the monsoons. Also Traill, pp. 141-2. Long, Vol. I, para. 12 (Despatch to the Court dated 27th January 1748) and para 31. These despatches suggest that in Bengal it was the traditional duty of the local merchants to look after the repair of roads. As the merchants declined to do it, the East India Company advanced money which was to be repaid out of "*the merchants' accounts current*."

51c. For details regarding the means of transport. see Pennant, Vol. I, pp. 35 (camels in Thatta), 99-100 (oxen and hackeries in Gujarat) & 101 (sheep in Goa); Pennant, Vol. II, pp. 239-40 (horses, ponies, mules and oxen); Hodges, pp. 31, 34 & 109 (bullocks, hackeries and horses); Valentia, Vol. I, pp. 70-1 & 240; S. N. Mukhlis, pp. 9, 39 & 106 (palanquins and carts); Firaqi, pp. 31, 56, 74 & 111 (oxen and camels); and Raper, pp. 642-63 & 529 (hill-ponies called *gunts*, *char singhas* and *chha-singhas*, *Sura gai*, i.e., cow used for carriage and riding).

52. Raper, pp. 457-8.

53. *Ain-i-Akbari* Vol. I, (Blockmann), pp. 289-92 & 389. Purchas, Vol. IV, p. 268 (1615 A.D.). Sujan Rai, pp. 10, 43-4, 59, 77, & 80. Hamilton, Vol. I, pp. 75-7. Hodges pp. 23-43, gives a detailed description of different types of boats for different purposes, i.e. for passengers and different kinds of goods. A special type of construction and weight was kept up for a boat meant for a particular purpose. Hodges, pp. 38-9, refers to special types of boats constructed for carrying cotton. Twining, pp. 125-8, refers to a journey by boat from Bengal to Monghir underlining the importance of the Ganges as a cheap and expeditious means of transport. Goods were carried along the Gogra to the Ganges and from thereon transported on larger boats to Calcutta. Valentia, Vol. I, pp. 90—222. Firaqi, pp. 74, 79, 122, 127 & 140. Raper p. 479.

54. For freight rates in respect of river-borne goods in 1639 A.D. from Agra to Multan and Multan to Thatta see *The English Factories* (1637-41), pp. 135-6.

55. For details, see *Ain-i-Akbari* Vol. I (Blockmann), pp. 389, 555 & 563; *Tuzk-i-Jahangiri* (tr. by A. Rodgers). p. 298, *Tarikh-i-Tahiri*, Br. Museum, O.R. No. 1685, fols. 58a-b; Peter Mundy, *Travels*, Vol. II, pp. 87-8; Thomas Bowrey, *A Geographical Account etc.* (1669-1679 A.D.), Cambridge, 1905, p. 225; Sujan Rai, pp. 323-7; and Hodges, pp. 75-6.

55a. S. N. Mukhlis, p. 105. The boatmen in various parts of North India were usually Kashmiris.

56. See note 53 above. Also, Mirza Nathan, *Baharistan-i-Ghaibi* (Jahangir's reign) MS. Suppl Pers. 252 Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, fol. 2b-4b. For special boats maintained by the English East India Company, see Hodges, pp. 38-9 and Valentia, Vol. I, p. 185.



57. Ibid. S. N. Mukhlis, pp. 12-13, 15, 24, 95-6 and 99-100. The zamindars were to provide boats on the *ghats* of the rivers from Dacca to Calcutta for the crossing of the troops of the English East India Company—Long. Vol. I, p. 398.

58. Sujan Rai, p. 25. The author gives details of the procedure of the *hundi* system. The *sarafs* had their agents at important commercial places, especially within a beat of 200 leagues. The *sarafs* got their commission and the system worked most satisfactorily. Sujan Rai praises the commercial integrity of the Indian set-up. Also Raper, pp. 451 & 497. The areas of commercial operation mentioned by Raper extend from Kabul and Kashmir to Bengal. The premium charged by the *sarafs* and their agents on bullion, coinage and exchange on the outside coinage ranged from 1½% to 2%.

58a. Malcolm, Vol. II, pp. 93-6. In Malwa itself there were insurance companies at Ujjain, Indore and Mandesore operating since generations throughout Malwa, Gujarat, Deccan and North India. Also Tód, Vol. II, p. 501.

58b. N.A.I., *Akhbar* No. 185, O.R. dated 18th *Jamada* II A.H. 1211/19 January, 1797 A.D.

59. Ibid. Tavernier, Vol. I, pp. 36-7. *The English Factories* (1637-41), p. 84.

60. Sujan Rai, p. 25. C.P.C., Vol. VIII, pp. 241-2, (in Awadh and the English East India Company's territories). Duncan Records, Vol. II, pp. 10-11.

61. *Bahi of Sarakji*, Saraswati Bhandar Library, Udaipur, documents dated 22nd (dark half) *Phalgun* V.S. 1838/20 March 1778 A.D. and 1st (bright half) *Chaitra*, V.S. 1835/29 March 1778 A.D., fols. 248a-263b.

62. Ibid. letter dated 14th (bright half) *Kartika*, V.S. 1866/1809 A.D., No. 1, File No. 4.

63. Patta dated 3rd (dark half) *Posh* V.S. 1763/10 January 1707 A.D. in Old Deposit Records, State Archives Udaipur, No. 163(3).

64. Document V.S. 1729/1672-73 A.D. in *Vidya Pith Collection*, Udaipur.

65. Raper, p. 536. The *mahants* of some of the temples of Ajmer (Rajasthan) are still in possession of documents showing rate of interest on the loans given by them to the laity. The priests of the Badrinath temple lent money to the Rajas of Srinagar (Kumaon) and kept two to three villages as security against the repayment of loan which was never paid and the revenues of the villages remained under constant pledge.

66. *Siyaqnāma*, MS. No. 858, Central Record Office, Hyderabad, fols. 6a-14a and *Dasturulam* No. 676, fols. 7b-8b.

67. M. S. Jahani, p. 180. Though this practice can be traced in Bhakkar and the two *sarkars* of Chakarhala and Nasirpur (*subah* Thatta), it may have developed in other regions as well.

68. Ibid.

69. Raj Archives. Misc. Persian Letters, Regd. No. 57, dated A.H. 1104/1693 A.D. Also, Sujan Rai, pp. 43 & 77. Traill, pp. 193-6. The zamindari families themselves were engaged in trade and commerce and set up their *mandis* and *marts*.

70. *Khulasatu-s Siyaq* (1703 A.D.), MS. in N.A.I., pp. 61-3. Traill, pp. 193-6.

71. For details, see my paper entitled "Nature of *Dehat-i-Taaluqa* (zamindari villages) and the Evolution of the *Tealuqdari* System during the Mughal Age" in *The Indian Economic and Social History Review*, Vol. II, No. 2 (April, 1965), pp. 166-77, and Vol. II, No. 3 (July 1965), pp. 259-288.

72. Vide Note 64 above.

73. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Br. Museum, Add. Mss. No. 7652 fol. 150b. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Hamilton, Berlin, fol. 127a. *Arzdasht-ha-i-Muzaffar Khan*, Br. Museum, Add. Mss. No. 16859, fol. 103b. Raj Archives, *Yaddasht mal-o-Jihat Wa Sair-o-Jihat*, Sohkhara Pargana, dated A.H. 1069/1658-59 A.D., and *Pargana Riware* (Subah Delhi). Sujan Rai, pp. 11, 36, 43-4, 56, 59, 75, 79 & 80.

74. Ibid.

75. *Akbarnama* (tr. by Beveridge), Bib. Ind., Calcutta, 1897-1921, Vol. II, pp. 33-4, and Vol. III, p. 437, *Insha-i-Allami*, MS. Orient, Oct. 1140, Berlin, fols. 47a-48a. *Tarikh-i-Akbari* alias *Tarikh-i-Qandahari*, Rampur, 1962, pp. 32-3.

76. M. S. Jahani, p. 186.

77. *Jahangir Nama* MS., Rampur, F. 172, p. 9, and *Memoirs of Jahangir*. English tr., A. Rogers and Beveridge, London, 1909 pp. 4 & 47, M. S. Jahani, p. 186, states that even though *zakat* was abolished by Jahangir,  $\frac{1}{2}$  *seer* of the commodity carried by boat were levied in the riverine tracts in Sehwan.

78. *Zawabit-i-Alamgiri*, MS. 2336, Central Record Office, Hyderabad, pp. 101-3. *Mirat-i-Alam*, (1666 A.D.), MS. 51, Muslim University Aligarh, fols. 138b & 181a. *Ain Bakht* MS., Muslim University, Aligarh, 84/314 fol. 211b. *Mirat-i-Ahmadi*, Vol. I, pp. 258-59.

79. Khwafi Khan, Vol. II, pp. 88-90. Shihabat Din Talish, *Fathiya-i-Ibriya* (1663 A.D.), (continuation) MS. Or. 589, Bodleian Library, Oxford, fols. 109b-111a. Raj Archives, *Akhbarat*, No. 1495/2 dated 5th *Jamada* 1, 23rd R.Y. Aurangzeb/3 June 1680 A.D. and No. 1563, dated 14th *Rajab* 23rd R.Y. Aurangzeb/10 August, 1680 A.D., and Maharajas Letters, No. 1066, dated 10th *Ramzan* A.H. 1116/6 January 1705 A.D.

80. The references quoted from *Akhbarat*, Raj Archives, in the preceding note, and *Akhbarat*, dated 25th *Safar* 13th R.Y. Aurangzeb/14th July 1670 A.D.

81. *Mirat-i-Ahmadi*, Vol. I, pp. 258-9, 264-5 & 298-9. Khwafi Khan, Vol. II, p. 88.

82. Raj Archives, *Akhbarat*, No. 1636, dated 5th R.Y. Bahadur Shah 16th *Ramzan* A.H. 1123/17th October 1711 A.D.

83. Ibid.

84. M.S. Jahani, p. 172.

85. Ibid, pp. 146-7, 172, 182 & 186-7. Valentia Vol. I, pp. 217-18 & 225.

86. Ibid, pp. 172 & 186-7.

87. Ibid, pp. 146-7, 151, 172 & 186.

88. Ibid.

89. Vide Notes 73-8 above. Also, Sujan Rai, p. 11.

90. M. S. Jahani, p. 145 (territory of Sehwan). Like the division of the agricultural *riaya* and the zamindari classes into *raiya* (revenue paying) and recalcitrant (*sarkash* or *zortalb*), the author divides the merchants into two classes viz. *raiya* (revenue paying and law abiding) and *sarkashi*. The later violated regulations and indulged in black marketing.

91. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Br. Museum, Add. Mss. No. 7652, fols. 143a-b. M. S. Jahani, pp. 172 & 186. Raj Archives, *Nirakhbazar*, Kohi *Pargana* dated 11th bright half margashirsha V.S. 1785/1 December, 1728 A.D. For the fixation of the local rates, see Raj Archives document dated 25th *Jamada II*; 44th R.Y. Aurangzeb/7 December 1700 A.D. For the daily reports sent by the *Karori* of the *ganj* to the Central Court, see Raj Archives, Misc. Persian Letters, Regd. No. 355, 25 *Jamada II*, 44 R.Y. Aurangzeb/7 December, 1700 A.D. Ibid, dated 27 *Muharram* 44 R.Y. Aurangzeb/14 July, 1700 A.D.

92. Raj Archives, letter of 5th *Jamada II*, A.H. 1127/8. June, 1715, A.D. and letter of dated 13th *Rajab* A.H. 1127/15 July 1715 A.D.

93. Raj Archives, *Akhbarat* dated Safar 13th R.Y. Aurangzeb/June-July 1670 A.D.

94. *Farman* of Emperor Farrukhsiyar dated 4th *Safar*, 5th R.Y./18th January 1717 A.D. A copy of the original *Farman* in persian with translation in Surman's Diary, India Office Records, Home Series, Vol. LXIX, pp. 130-1. Also, a photostat copy of the latter in S.Bhattacharya, *The East India Company and the Economy of Bengal from 1704 to 1710*, London, 1954, p. 234.

95. Twining, p. 86—Calwa, a village on the bank of river Ganges had a flourishing commerce in grain, and near it were some indigo works. Indigo Plantations were also run by the Englishmen near Hooglye. Valentia, Vol. I, p. 231 (Report dated 4 Oct. 1802).

96. Sujan Rai, p. 34. Pennant Vol. II, p. 318, refers to Indian paper used at Calcutta for printing purposes. Apart from paper manufacture in North India at Sialkot, Furrukhabad, Kashmir, Khairpur, Haunpur and Gaya, its manufacture was becoming quite common in Southern India too.

97. Grose Vol. I, p. 122, Pennant Vol. II, p. 228-30. Valentia Vol. I, p. 90.

98. *Haft Aqlim*, Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, fol. 38b (salt was extracted from grass and vegetation). Verelst, p. 114 (manufacture of salt at certain seasons by manufacturers on putting-out basis) and Appendix, p. 59. Long, Vol. I, para. 979 (Select Committee, 4 August 1767), states that zamindars were engaged in making salt on their lands with the help of artificers. The merchants procured salt from the zamindars at the village level, and a record of the salt produced was maintained. Also, N.A.I. *Akhbars* (Persian), No. 224 OR 5, 8(c), dated 30 July 1777, and No. 225 OR 5, 81(d), dated ibid. However, Sindhi salt was also imported to Bengal in English ships, *Akhbar* No. 231 OR 5, dated 5th Sept. 1777 A.D. Verelst, Appendix, p. 59, Duncan Records, Vol. II, pp. 12-13. G. H. Barlow noted that despite the fact that Bengal salt was sold in Awadh at the cheap rate of Rs. 3½ to Rs. 4 per maund, it was not considered of good quality and the Sambhar salt was preferred. Barlow suggested the removal of the custom duties on salt in order to bring down further the price of the Bengal salt so as to procure for it a larger market.

99. The palaces of Patiala, Alwar and Bharatpur built during the 18th century contain numerous works of art and craftsmanship.

100. S. N. Mukhlis, pp. 69 & 82 (damage done by the Rohillas). Verelst, pp. 125-7 and Appendix, p. 111 (Rohillas and Sikhs). Raper, pp. 453-4. Poll tax on travellers attending religious fairs and the heavy duties levied on cattle and merchandise by the Marathas. C.P.C., Vol. VIII, para 234, p. 97 (pillage by the Sikhs, Mewatis and Marathas). *Firaqi* pp. 33, 48, 50, 64-5, 72-3, 90-1, 117, 121, 124, 126-7, 135 & 142 (Sikhs, Gujars, Marathas, Jats and Rohillas). N.A.I., *Akhbars*, Nos. 186 OR 186, dated 6th *Rajab* A.H. 1211/20 Jan. 1797; No. 187 OR 61 dated 11th *Rajab* A.H. 1211/22nd Jan. 1797; No. 189 OR 63 dated 27th *Jamada II*/22nd Jan. 1797 (Sikhs); No. 195 OR 84, dated 28 Jan. 1797 (Gujars); and No. 91 OR 418 dated 9th *Zulqada* A.H. 1201/1st Sept. 1787 (Rohillas).

101. N.A.I. *Akbar* No. 95 OR 422 dated 10th *zulqada* A.H. 1201/1 Sept. 1787 (rise in price due to pillage by the Gujars). Twining, p. 100. Pennant Vol. II, p. 273. Foster, Vol. I, p. 261. Raper, p. 953. Grose, pp. 78-93. Grose comments that due to the atrocity of the Marathas, even the Hindu merchants especially the *Banyais* and Brahmins, preferred to live under a Moorish Government or any other Government. Surat was crowded with Hindu merchants and mechanics.

102. Long, para, 87, p. 32. The Despatch to the Court, 18 Sept. 1752, states that the weavers and washermen ran away from Jugdea in Bengal.

103. *Bahi of Sanakji*, Saraswati Mahal Library, Udaipur, Nos. 260, 264, 267-8, dated 2nd dark half of *Phalguna* V.S. 1834/20 March 1778 A.D. and 1st bright half of *Chaitra* V.S. 1835/29 March 1778 A.D., mention the rate of interest at 1% or a *takka* per rupee per month. Also, Bolts, pp. 157-8, and Raper, pp. 451-2.

104. Khwafi Khan, Vol. II, p. 90. Long, Vol. I, p. 27 (Consultations dated 30 May 1751) and p. 119 (letter to the Court 27 Feb. 1758). Duncan Records, Vol. II, pp. 25-31. Grose Vol. I, pp. 99-100. Foster Vol. I, pp. 191-2.

105. Ibid. C.P.C., Vol. VIII, pp. 175-6, letter dated 31st May 1788 A.D. (Benaras, Bengal and Bihar); pp. 241-3, letter dated 3 August 1788 (Awadh, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa); and pp. 85-6, letter dated 29 Feb. 1788. Raper, pp. 453-4. Foster Vol. I, pp. 268 & 347-8 and Vol. II, p. 88. Duncan Records, Vol. II, pp. 16 and 19.

106. Long, Vol. I, pp. 211-12 (proceedings dated 14 April, 1760 A.D.), and p. 242. C.P.C., Vol. VIII, p. 29. Bolts pp. 157-8 & 203-6. Foster, Vol. II, p. 38. Hamilton, Vol. II, p. 497.

107. Bolts, pp. 203-6.

108. Ibid. pp. 158 & 206. Grose, Vol. I, pp. 282-3. G.W. Forrest, *Selections from letters etc.*, London 1870, Vol. II, p. 101-2.

109. Khwafi Khan, Vol. II, pp. 395-6. Long, Vol. I, p. 40 (Consultation, 11 December 1752) and p. 57 (Consultation, 24 April 1755).

110. Long, Vol. I, p. 250 (January 1761) and pp. 276-7 (Proceedings 7 June 1762). Bolts, pp. 73-4 & 190-200. Verelst, pp. 58 & 84-90, Duncan Records, Vol. II, pp. 3-9.

111. Traill, pp. 146-7, 149-50 and Appendix pp. 192-6. C.P.C., Vol. No. VIII, pp. 241-3 (letter dated 3 August 1788). Also, op. cit. Notes 35-47, 53, 59a and 95-8.

112. Taylor, *Letters on India etc.*, London, 1800, p. 164. William Milburn, *Oriental Commerce*, Vol. II, London, 1858, pp. 250-2. D. Macpherson, *The History of European Commerce with India*, London, 1812, p. 282. Balkrishna *Commercial Relations between England and India, 1600-1757*, London, 1924, pp. 308-10, N. K.

Mishra, *The British Parliamentary Act of 1700 and The Textile Industry of India*, Proceedings of the Indian History Congress, Poona, 1963, pp. 554-61.

113. Raper, p. 530. Mir Ahmad, *Twarikh-i-Kalan Kashmir* (1834-37 A.D.), MS. M/829, State Archives, Patiala.

114. Long, Vol. I, p. 119 (Letter to the Court, 27 February 1758).

115. See Notes, 5-7, 29-30, 38, 44, 58, 95-98, 110-112 above.

116. For example, see B. H. Baden Pöwell, *Economic Products of the Punjab*, Lahore, 1872. and J. L. Kipling's "The Industries of the Punjab" in *The Journal of Indian Art*, No. 20, October 1887, London, pp. 25-40.

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## **General Appendices**





## APPENDIX A

### List of Members of the Indian Historical Records Commission

The Minister for Education, Government of India, *ex-officio* President.  
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The Director of Archives, Government of India, *ex-officio* Secretary.

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Dr. Hari Ram Gupta, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., Retired Professor of History, Punjab University, 8/78, Punjabi Bagh, Delhi.

Prof. M. Habib, Muslim University, Aligarh.

Dr. M. Ruthnaswamy, M.P., 199, South Avenue, New Delhi-2.

Prof. R. P. Patwardhan, M.A. (Oxon.), I.E.S. (Retd.), 800, Bhandarkar Institute Road, Poona-4.

Dr. P. M. Joshi, M.A., Ph.D., C/o Deccan College, Poona.

Dr. Raghubir Singh, M.A., D.Litt., Raghubir Nivas, Sitamau (Madhya Pradesh).

Dr. S. Gopal, Historical Division, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

Dr. T. Raychaudhri, M.A., Ph.D., D.Phil., Professor of Economic History, Delhi University, Delhi-7.

Prof. H. K. Sherwani, M.A., (Oxon.), Bar-at-Law, Rahat Fiza, Himayat Nagar, Hyderabad-29.

Shri Khushwant Singh, 1-A, Janpath, New Delhi-1.

Prof. K. A. Nilkanta Sastri, 'Nileswar', Edward Elliot Road, Mylapore Madras-4.

Prof. K. N. V. Sastri, M.A., Ph.D., 10, West Park Road, Maleswaram, Bangalore-3.

Prof. S. C. Sarkar, M.A. (Oxon.) 239-A, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Road, Calcutta-17.

## APPENDIX B

## Review of progress made in the publication programme of the National Archives of India

## Scheme I—Fort William—India House Correspondence

| Vol. No. | Honorary Editors' Name   | Date of sending the typescript to the Honorary Editor | Date of completion of work by the Honorary Editor | Date of sending of volume to the Press | Date of publication of the volume               | Remarks |
|----------|--|---|---|--|---|---------|
| I        | 2  | 3   | 4   | 5                                      | 6   | 7       |
| I.       | Dr. K. K. Datta  | .   | 1943  | 1948                                   | 1952<br>Government of India Press,<br>New Delhi | 1958    |
| II.      | Dr. H. N. Sinha  | .   | 1943  | 1949                                   | 1954<br>Sree Saraswati Press,<br>Calcutta       | 1957    |
| III.     | Dr. R. R. Sethi<br>(Appointed in place of<br>Prof. D. N. Banerjee) | .   | 1951  | 1953                                   | 1964<br>Government of India Press,<br>Nasik     | ..      |
| IV.      | Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari   | .   | 1943  | 1951                                   | 1959<br>Sree Saraswati Press,<br>Calcutta       | 1961    |
| V.       | Dr. N. K. Sinha  | .   | 1943  | 1948                                   | 1948<br>Gossain & Co., Calcutta                 | 1949    |
| VI.      | Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad  | .   | 1943  | 1946                                   | 1957<br>Sree Saraswati Press,<br>Calcutta       | 1960    |

|   |    |      |      |   |      |  |
|---|----|------|------|---|------|--|
| I. Prof. R. P. Patwardhan   | .. | 1944 | 1953 | 1960  | ..   | Printing of the volume is continuing.          |
| VIII. Dr. H. L. Gupta<br>(Appointed in place of Prof. Sh. A. Rashid)      | .. | 1965 | ..   | ..  | ..   | The work of editing the volume is continuing.  |
| IX. Dr. B. A. Saleore   | .. | 1944 | 1952 | 1954  | 1959 | ..   |
| X. Dr. Raghubir Sinha<br>(Appointed in place of Dr. T. G. P. Spear)       | .. | 1952 | 1964 | Gossain & Co., Calcutta   | ..   | Expected to be sent for printing soon.         |
| XI. Dr. I. B. Banerjee  | .. | 1954 | 1956 | ..  | ..   | Awaiting scrutiny.                             |
| XII. Dr. A. Tripathi<br>(Appointed in place of Dr. S. N. Das Gupta)       | .. | 1960 | ..   | ..  | ..   | Work not yet completed by the Honorary Editor. |
| XIII. Dr. P. C. Gupta   | .. | 1945 | 1951 | 1957  | 1959 | ..   |
| XIV. Dr. A. L. Srivastava<br>(Appointed in place of Prof. J. C. Tatuqdar) | .. | 1960 | ..   | ..  | ..   | Work not yet completed by the Honorary Editor. |
| XV. Prof. C. H. Philips & Dr. B. B. Misra                                 | .. | 1951 | 1954 | 1960  | 1963 | ..   |
| XVI. Prof. S. H. Askari   | .. | 1946 | 1952 | ..  | ..   | Awaiting scrutiny.                             |
| XVII. Prof. Y. J. Taraporewala  | .. | 1946 | 1949 | 1952  | 1955 | ..   |
| XVIII. Rev. Father H. Heras   | .. | 1946 | 1954 | ..  | ..   | ..   |
| XIX. Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad<br>(Appointed in place of Brig. H. Bullock).   | .. | 1962 | ..   | ..  | ..   | ..   |
| XX. Dr. A. C. Banerjee  | .. | 1949 | 1954 | 1964  | ..   | Printing of the volume is nearing completion.  |
| XXI. Prof. S. R. Kohli  | .. | 1949 | 1961 | Govt. of India Press, Calcutta<br>1964<br>Govt. of India Press, Faridabad | ..   | Printing of the volume is nearing completion.  |

*Scheme II—Selections from English Records*

| Volume                                   | Editor  | Date of publication<br>of the Volume | Remarks |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Indian Travels of Thevenot and Careri | Director of Archives, Govern-<br>ment of India. | 1949<br>Sri Gauranga Press, Calcutta | ..      |
| 2. Browne Correspondence . . .           | Do.   | 1960<br>Albion Press, Delhi          | ..      |



## Scheme III (A)—Records in Oriental Languages

| Volume                                | By whom editing and publication undertaken  | When undertaken | Date of Publication | Remarks   |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| 1                                     | 2   | 3               | 4                   | 5   |
| 1. Bengali Letters . . . . .          | Calcutta University (Editor : Dr. S. N. Sen).   | 1941            | 1942                | ..  |
| 2. Sanskrit Documents . . . . .       | Ganganath Jha Research Institute, Allahabad (Editors : Dr. S. N. Sen & Dr. U. Misra). | 1945            | 1951                | ..  |
| 3. Telugu Documents . . . . .         | Andhra University (Editor : Prof. G. J. Somayaji).                                    | 1954            | 1957                | ..  |
| 4. Marathi Letters . . . . .          | Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona (Editor : Prof. D. V. Potdar).             | 1946            | ..                  | Text of the Marathi Letters has been printed. An English summary, notes, index and introduction of the volume are yet to be prepared and printed. There is no response from the Mandala despite repeated reminders. |
| 5. Persian Akhbars . . . . .          | Delhi University (Editor : Dr. P. Saran)  | 1953            | ..                  | Volume has been printed but not released.   |
| 6. Hindi Letters, Volume I . . . . .  | Allahabad University (Editor : Prof. D. Verma).                                       | 1949            | 1960                | ..  |
| 7. Hindi Letters, Volume II . . . . . | Government of Rajasthan (Editor : Dr. M. L. Sharma).                                  | ..              | ..                  | The Government of Rajasthan have been requested to change the present editorial arrangement.  |
| 8. Tamil Letters . . . . .            | Delhi Tamil Sangam (Editors : Dr. K. S. Krishnan and Shri A. N. K. Aiyangar).         | 1955            | ..                  | Position is not known. The Editors have been reminded and reply is awaited.   |

*Scheme III(B)—Selections from English Records*

| Volume                                      | By whom editing and publication undertaken   | When undertaken | Date of publication | Remarks                                       |
|---|--|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| Selections from Orme Manuscripts            | Annamalai University (Editor : Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari).                          | 1945            | 1952                | ..  |
| Punjab Akhbars (1839-41)                    | Sikh History Society, Amritsar (Editor Dr. Ganda Singh).                             | 1946            | 1952                | ..  |
| Elphinstone Correspondence (1804-08)        | Nagpur University Historical Society (Editors : Dr. R. M. Sinha and Dr. A. Avasthi). | 1948            | 1961                | ..  |
| News Letters (1839-42)                      | Punjab University (Editors : Shri P. D. Varma and Dr. S. P. Sangor).                 | 1961            | ..                  | The work of editing the volume is continuing. |
| Selections from Ochterlony Papers (1818-25) | Calcutta University (Editors : Dr. N. K. Sinha and Dr. A. K. Das Gupta).             | 1961            | 1964                | ..  |

*Scheme of publication of Educational Records of the Government of India*

| Name of the Publication  | Name of the author/<br>editor | Name of the Press                    | Date of sending to the Press | Date of publication of the volume | Remarks |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Vol. I, Selection from Educational Records of the Government of India Educational Reports, 1859-71                   | National Archives of India    | Government of India Press, New Delhi | 1959                         | 1960                              |         |
| Vol. II, Selections from Educational Records of the Government of India Development of University Education, 1860-87 | Editor : Shri J. P. Naik      | Do.                                  | 1961                         | 1963                              |         |
| Selections from Educational Records, Part I, 1781-1839 (Reprint)   | Editor : H. Sharp             | Do.                                  | 1964                         | 1965                              |         |
| Selections from Educational Records, Part II, 1840-1859 (Reprint)  | Editor : J. A. Richey         | Do.                                  | 1964                         | 1965                              |         |

*Publication of Calendar of Persian Correspondence*

| Vol.<br>Period | Name of the Author<br>or Editor         | Name of the Press                    | Date of<br>sending<br>to the<br>Press | Date of<br>publica-<br>tion of<br>the<br>volume |
|----------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| I 1759-67      | E. Denison Ross                         | Government of India Press, Calcutta  | ..                                    | 1911  |
| II 1767-69     | Keeper of Imperial Records,<br>Calcutta | Do.                                  | ..                                    | 1914  |
| III 1770-72    | A. F. Scholfield . . .                  | Do.                                  | ..                                    | 1919  |
| IV 1772-75     | A. F. M. Abdul Ali . . .                | Do.                                  | ..                                    | 1925  |
| V. 1776-80     | A. F. M. Abdul Ali . . .                | Do.                                  | ..                                    | 1930  |
| VI 1781-85     | A. F. M. Abdul Ali . . .                | Do.                                  | ..                                    | 1937  |
| VII 1785-87    | Dr. S. N. Sen . . .                     | Do.                                  | ..                                    | 1940  |
| VIII 1788-89   | Dr. B. A. Saleore . . .                 | Government of India Press, New Delhi | ..                                    | 1953  |
| IX 1790-91     | Dr. S. N. Sen . . .                     | Sree Saraswati Press, Calcutta       | ..                                    | 1949  |
| X 1792-93      | Shri K. D. Bhargava . . .               | Gossain & Co., Calcutta              | ..                                    | 1959  |
| XI 1794-95     | Shri K. D. Bhargava . . .               | Government of India Press, Calcutta  | 1962                                  | ..  |

## APPENDIX C

### Constitutions of the Regional Records Survey Committees of Rajasthan, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Madras, West Bengal, Bihar and Maharashtra State Board for Archives and Archaeology

#### RAJASTHAN

#### Government of Rajasthan

#### Education (Cell-IV) Department

No. F. 1(865)Edu./Cell-IV/61

Dated the 29th Nov., 1961.

#### ORDER

Government have been pleased to constitute a Regional Survey Committee with headquarters at Jodhpur and 5 Zonal Survey Committees with headquarters at Bikaner, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Kota and Jaipur in connection with the survey of historical documents, paintings, art objects and manuscripts in the State. The constitution of the Committee will be as follows :—

#### I. Regional Survey Committee

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| (a) Honorary Director, Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur.   | Chairman |
| (b) Director of Archaeology & Museums, Rajasthan, Jaipur.  | Member   |
| (c) One representative from the Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, Udaipur.  | Member   |
| (d) One representative from Sangeet and Nritya Kala Academy, Jodhpur.  | Member   |
| (e) One representative from the Lalit Kala Academy, Jaipur.  | Member   |
| (f) Director, Sanskrit Education, Rajasthan, Jaipur.   | Member   |
| (g) Director of College Education, Rajasthan, Jaipur.  | Member   |
| (h) Director of Primary & Secondary Education, Rajasthan, Bikaner or his representative preferably the Dy. Director holding charge of Public Libraries in the State. | Member   |
| (i) One representative of the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor.   |          |

- (j) Officer for Cultural & Literary Affairs, Rajasthan, Jaipur. *Member*
- (k) Director of Archives, Rajasthan, Jaipur. *Convener*

## II. Zonal Survey Committees

- (1) Collector of the District concerned. *Chairman*
- (2) Professors of History, Hindi, Sanskrit, Urdu and Persian.
- (3) Superintendent of the District Archives Office.
- (4) Any important private owner or owners to be nominated by the Chairman.
- (5) Superintendent or Curator of the Government Museum in the District. *Convener*

The Regional Survey Committee will be the co-ordinating agency which should issue detailed instructions about the duties of the Zonal Survey Committees. The zonal Survey Committees will function as advisory committees. The area of operation of each Zonal Committee will be as follows :—

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Bikaner Zone.</i> | Chittorgarh.        |
| Bikaner.             | Dungarpur.          |
| Churu.               | Udaipur.            |
| Ganganagar.          | <i>Kota Zone.</i>   |
| <i>Jodhpur Zone.</i> | Bundi.              |
| Barmer.              | Jhalawar.           |
| Jaisalmer.           | Kota.               |
| Jalore.              | <i>Jaipur Zone.</i> |
| Jodhpur.             | Alwar.              |
| Nagaur.              | Bharatpur.          |
| Pali.                | Jaipur.             |
| Sirohi.              | Jhunjhunu.          |
| <i>Udaipur Zone.</i> | Sawai Madhopur.     |
| Banswara.            | Sikar.              |
| Bhilwara.            | Tonk.               |

These committees will start functioning with immediate effect.

Sd/- . . . . .  
Secretary to Government

*Government of Orissa*  
*Department of Cultural Affairs.*

**RESOLUTION**

*Dated, Bhubaneswar, the 21st March 1964.*

**SUBJECT :—**Permanent Regional Survey Committee—Reconstitution of.

On the expiry of the term of the office of the members of the permanent Regional Survey Committee constituted in Resolution No. 474-E dated 25-1-1954 and extended in Notification No. 2880/E dated 25-3-1957, No. 15846-E dated 14-12-1957 and No. 12131-E dated 22-6-1959, Government are pleased to reconstitute the Committee for a period of three years with effect from 1st April, 1964. The Committee will consist of the following members :

*Ex-Officio Members*

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Deputy Minister, Cultural Affairs                                      | <i>President</i>      |
| 2. Director of Cultural Affairs.  | <i>Vice-President</i> |
| 3. Assistant Director, State Archives.                                    | <i>Secretary</i>      |
| 4. Sri S. N. Rajguru, Epigraphist, State Museum                           | <i>Member</i>         |
| 5. Sri Banshidhar Mohanty, Lecturer, Oriya, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack-3. | <i>Member</i>         |
| 6. Reader in Persian, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack.                         | <i>Member</i>         |
| 7. Commissioner of Hindu Religious Endowment.                             | <i>Member</i>         |
| 8. Secretary, Board of Revenue.   | <i>Member</i>         |
| 9. Registrar, High Court.   | <i>Member</i>         |

*Non-Official Members*

10. Sri P. Mukharjee, Reader in History, University College, Vanibihar, Bhubaneswar.
11. Sri Sadasiv Rath Sarma, Puri.

Official members of the Committee will draw T.A. and D.A. for attending the meeting as admissible under rules, from their respective Budget heads.

Non-official members of the Committee will draw T.A. and D.A. as laid down in Finance Department Resolution No. 18937-F dated 6-8-1955 amended in Finance Department Resolution No. 11270-F dated 1-4-1958 and 14486-F dated 21-4-1960.

*Orders :*

**Ordered** that the Resolution be published in the Orissa Gazette and copies circulated to all concerned.

By order of Governor,  
B. VENKATARAMAN  
Secretary to Government

ANDHRA PRADESH  
Government of Andhra Pradesh

*ABSTRACT*

Indian Historical Records Survey Committee—Regional Historical Records  
Survey Committee—Reconstitution ordered

*Education Department*

G.O.Ms. No. 3327, Education

Dated the 14th December, 1964.

Read the following :—

- (1) G.O.Ms. No. 3982, Education, dated 14-12-1959.
- (2) G.O.Ms. No. 3084, Education, dated 16-10-1962.
- (3) From the Director of State Archives, No. 7438-K/63, dated 11-11-1964.
- (4) From the Director of State Archives, No. 7438-K/63, dated 12-11-1964.

*Order :*

The Government accept the suggestion of the Regional Historical Records Survey Committee at its meeting held on 19-9-1964 at Tirupathi and direct that the Regional Historical Records Survey Committee be reconstituted with the following members :—

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Sri M. R. Apparao, Minister for Excise & Prohibition.   | <i>President</i>              |
| 2. Education Secretary.  | <i>Member</i>                 |
| 3. The Director of State Archives.   | <i>Secretary (Ex-officio)</i> |
| 4. Dr. D. V. Subba Reddy, Director, Department of History of Medicine, Hyderabad.                    | <i>Member</i>                 |
| 5. Dr. O. Ramachandraiah, M.A. Ph.D., Head of the Department of History, Andhra University, Waltair. | <i>Member</i>                 |
| 6. Dr. M. Rama Rao, Professor of History, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi.                    | <i>Member</i>                 |

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 7. Sri K. A. Sajanlal, Reader in the Department of History, Osmania University, Hyderabad.                  | <i>Member</i> |
| 8. Dr. P. M. Joshi, Director of Archives and Historical Monuments, Bombay.                                  | <i>Member</i> |
| 9. Shri V. K. Bawa, I.A.S., Deputy Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.   | <i>Member</i> |
| 10. The Curator, Madras Records Office, Madras.   | <i>Member</i> |
| 11. The Director of Archaeology, Hyderabad.   | <i>Member</i> |
| 12. Sri R. Subha Rao, M.A., M.Ed. General Secretary to the Andhra Historical Research Society, Rajahmundry. | <i>Member</i> |
| 13. Sri N. Venkatrao, 3-6-668, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad.   | <i>Member</i> |

2. The tenure of office of members of the new Committee will be two years from the date of its constitution.

3. The Committee is authorised to set up *ad hoc* Regional Sub-Committees for survey as and when necessary.

4. The Committee will be classified as a First Class Committee and the Regional Sub-Committees that may be constituted by the Committee will be classified as a second class committee for purposes of regulating the T.A. of the non-official members. The T.A. bills shall be countersigned by the Director of State Archives.

5. The Committee will meet at least 4 times in a year and it shall hold its meetings in different parts of the State, preferably in the District Head Quarters towns, by rotation.

6. A sum of Rs. 1,000 (Rupees one thousand only) will be placed at the disposal of the *ex-officio* Secretary of the Committee for meeting contingent expenditure. A sum of Rs. 3,000 p.a. is also sanctioned for the Committee to meet the T.A. expenses of the members of the Committee.

7. The expenditure shall be debited to "39, Miscellaneous Social and Development organisations—G. Preservation and Translation of ancient manuscripts—(a) Survey of Records"

(By order and in the name of the Governor, Andhra Pradesh).

BAQUER MAHMOOD  
Deputy Secretary to Government.



## MADRAS

*Government of Madras**ABSTRACT*

Indian Historical Records Commission—Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records—Madras—Reconstitution ordered.

*Public (General-M) Department*

G.O. Ms. No. 57

Dated : the 7th January 1966.

*Read :*

- (i) G.O.Ms. No. 1037, Public (General-M), dated 26-4-1962.
- (ii) From the Assistant Curator-in-Charge, Madras Record Office, Letter No. 4200-D7/64-3, dated 16-12-1964.
- (iii) From the Convener, Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records, Madras, letter No. 35/65, dated 17-4-1965.

*Order :*

The question of reconstituting the Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records, Madras, was taken up soon after term of the Office of the members of the said Committee, came to an end on 23-1-1965. The Registrar of Madras and Annamalai Universities, the Assistant Curator-in-Charge, Madras Record Office and the Convener, Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records, Madras, were consulted and the Government have decided that Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records, Madras, should be reconstituted with the following members for a period of three years from 23-1-1965 :—

*Learned Institutions : (6 members)*

- 1. Sri S. Gopalan, Member & Honorary Secretary, Thanjavur Maharaja Sarfoji's Saraswathi Mahal Library, Thanjavur.
- 2. Dr. M. Arokiaswamy, Reader, Department of History, University of Madras, Madras.
- 3. Sri M. P. Periaswamy Thooran, Chief Editor, Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam, Madras.
- 4. Dr. M. Varadaraja, M.A., M.O.L., Ph.D., Professor of Tamil, University of Madras, Madras.
- 5. Sri R. Viswanatha Ayyar, Librarian, Dr. V. Swaminatha Ayyar Library, Adyar, Madras.
- 6. The Honorary Secretary, Madurai Tamil Sangam, Madurai.

*Universities (3 members)*

- 7. Dr. K. Kanakasabapathy Pillai, Professor of Indian History, University of Madras, Madras.

8. Professor R. Sathianathier, M.A., L.T., Retired Professor and Head of the Department of History and Politics, Annamalai University.
9. Professor L. P. K. R. Ramanathan Chettiar, Head of the Department of Tamil (oriental), Annamalai University.

*Government Nominees : (10 members)*

10. Sri R. K. Parthasarathy, Curator, Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.
11. Dr. T. V. Mahalingam, M.A., D. Litt., Prof. of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Madras, Madras.
12. Sri S. A. W. Bukhari, Principal, New College, Royapettah, Madras.
13. Sri K. A. Nilakanta Sastri.
14. The Principal, Loyola College, Madras.
15. The Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration), Madras.
16. The Superintendent, Department of Archaeology, Southern Circle, Fort St. George, Madras-9.
17. The Curator, Madras Record Office, Madras-8.
18. The Government Epigraphist for India, Ootacamund.
19. The Director of Museums, Madras-8.

*Non-Official (7 members).*

20. Sri T. N. S. Theerthapathy, Zamindar of Singampatti, No. 5, First Cross Street, Rajah Annamalaipuram, Madras-28.
  21. Sri I. S. Chidambaran Pillai, M.A., M.L.C., "Love's Haven," Ilanji, Tenkasi (Southern Railway).
  22. Sri T. V. Ramasuba Iyer, Managing Editor, Dinamalar, P.B. No. 4, Tirunelveli-3.
  23. Sri P. R. Muthuswamy, No. 2, P. V. Somasundara Nadar Lane, East Masi Street, Madurai-1.
  24. Sri V. P. R. Gangaram Dorairaj, Secretary, Nadar Mahajana Sangam, No. 94, East Masi Street, Madurai-1.
  25. Sri Kanakaiya Naidu, Retired Examiner and Trustee of Historical Museum and Library, Sivakasi, Ramanathapuram District.
  26. Sri V. K. Ramaswamy Mudaliar, B.A., M.L.C., Cheyur, via Madurantakam.
2. Dr. K. Kanakasabhapathy Pillai, will be the convener of the reconstituted Committee. The Committee will, for purposes of Travelling and

Daily Allowance, be classified as a I class Committee. The non-official members will be paid the allowance at the following rates :

*Railway fare.*—The non-official members will be eligible to travel by the I class in trains and claim a single fare of the I class each way, plus fractional fare at 12 pies per mile to cover incidental charges.

*Milage.*—0-6-0 annas per mile.

*Daily allowance for halts.*—Rs. 10.50.

They will be paid a daily allowance of Rs. 7.50 per day of attendance at meetings of the Committee held in their places of residence or within a radius of five miles from their residence. The Travelling Allowance Bills will be countersigned by the Deputy Director of Higher Education.

3. The Government sanction the payment to the Convener of the Committee of an honorarium of Rs. 100 (Rupees one hundred only) per mensem.

4. A sum of Rs. 1,000 (Rupees one thousand only) per annum will be placed at the disposal of the convener for meeting contingent expenditure. The Convener is permitted to engage the services of a part-time typist for attending to the typing work in the Office of the Committee and pay him remuneration at a rate not exceeding Rs. 35 (Rupees thirty five only) per mensem out of the allotment of Rs. 1,000 mentioned above. He is also permitted to engage a part-time peon for attending to miscellaneous work and pay him remuneration at a rate not exceeding Rs. 10 (Rupees ten only) per mensem out of this allotment.

5. The expenditure will be debited to the head "39. Miscellaneous Departments—Preservation and Translation of Ancient Manuscripts (Survey of Records)."

6. An annual report on the working of the Committee should be submitted to Government by the Convener.

7. This order issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department—Vide its U.O. No. 92792/AII.I/45-1, dated 30-7-1965.

(By Order of the Governor)

C. A. RAMAKRISHNAN,  
Chief Secretary to Government

WEST BENGAL  
*Education Department*  
*State Archives*  
**RESOLUTION**

No. 111S.A./IOC-6/61—15th February 1966.—In supersession of the Education (Records) Department resolution No. 529RR|10C-11|57, dated the 24th September 1958, the Governor is pleased to reconstitute the West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee as follows :

The Committee shall consist of the following members :

1. Dr. N. K. Sinha, M.A., Ph.D., 85A, Ekdalia Road, Calcutta-19.
2. Prof. Susobhan Sarkar, M.A., 239A, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Road, Calcutta-47.
3. Dr. P. C. Gupta, M.A., Ph.D., 125, Rash Behari Avenue, Calcutta-29.
4. Dr. Anil Chandra Banerjee, M.A., Ph.D., 5, Jadu Mitra Lane, Calcutta-4.
5. Dr. S. P. Sen D.Phil. D.Litt., 5A, Motilal Nehru Road, Calcutta-29.
6. Dr. Amalesh Tripathi, M.A., Ph.D., Block 3, Gariahat, Government Housing Estate, Calcutta.
7. Dr. J. N. Sarkar, M.A. Ph.D., Professor of History, Jadavpur University.
8. Dr. A. P. Das Gupta, M.A., Ph.D., Curator, Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta.
9. Dr. Arun Das Gupta, M.A., Ph.D., Reader in History, Burdwan University.
10. Dr. Barun De, M.A., D. Phil. (Oxon). 55/2, Ballygunj Circular Road, Calcutta-19.
11. Director of State Archives (in his absence, the Assistant Director).

Dr. N. K. Sinha will be the Chairman; and the Director of of State Archives, West Bengal (in his absence, the Assistant Director) will be the Secretary and Convener of the Committee.

2. The Committee will function for a period of three years from the date of this notification.

3. The Committee will work as an Advisory Body advising the State Government on matters relating to the appraisal, preservation and maintenance of Historical Records in the State Archives and other Government offices. The committee will also endeavour to bring to light valuable historical records in private custody and suggest suitable measures for their preservation.

BIHAR

No. VI/M2-01/65E-1458

Government of Bihar

Education Department

RESOLUTION

Patna, the August, 1966.

SUBJECT :—*Reconstitution of the Bihar Regional Records Survey Committee, Bihar, Patna.*

Read : Government Order No. V/M30102/61-E-2774, dated 10-10-62.

2. The State Government have been pleased to re-constitute the Bihar Regional Records Survey Committee which will consist of the following :—

1. President of the Committee

2. Members representing the five Universities *i.e.* Patna University, Bihar University, Ranchi University, Bhagalpur University and Magadh University

5

3. Nominees of the State Government

6

4. Director of K. P. J. Research Institute, Member Secretary of the Committee

1

3. Sri S. H. Askari, Honorary Director of K. P. J. Research Institute, Patna, will act as the Secretary of the Committee.

4. The function of the Regional Records Survey Committee will remain the same as laid down in paragraph 2 of the Govt. Order No. 5011, dated 2-3-1954.

By order of the Governor of Bihar.

M. P. N. SHARMA

*Dy. Secretary to Government.*

MAHARASHTRA  
Government of Maharashtra  
Education and Social Welfare Department

RESOLUTION

No. AHR 1063-C-98638

Sachivalaya Annexe,

Bombay-32, dated 18th July, 1963.

Read :

Government Resolution, Education and Social Welfare Deptt. No. MSM 1660-C, dated the 14th June, 1960.

Letter No. 99/409, dated the 6th February, 1963 from the Director of Archives and Historical Monuments, Bombay.

*Resolution.*—As required under Section 30 of the Maharashtra Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1960 Government is pleased to constitute the Maharashtra State Board for Archives and Archaeology with the following persons, on its panel :—

1. Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra, Education and Social Welfare Department. (Chairman)
2. Dr. A. G. Pawar, Kolhapur.
3. Dr. Moti Chandar, Bombay.
4. Dr. V. V. Mirashi, Nagpur.
5. Dr. H. D. Sankalia, Poona.
6. Shri G. H. Kare, Poona.
7. Shri V. A. Kanole, Nanded.
8. Shri P. Setu Madhava Rao.
9. Dr. M. G. Dikshit, Nagpur.
10. Director of Archives and Historical Monuments, Bombay. (Member-Secretary).
11. Superintendent, Record Office, Bombay. (Asstt. Secretary).
2. The functions of this Board should be as under :—
  - (i) to guide and co-ordinate research activities of Record Offices and Research Institutes in the State, to undertake research in manuscripts records including old maps and pictures; to consider the acquisition of records relating to the history of the State and to suggest ways and means of their preservation and publications whenever necessary;

(ii) to advise Government in the matter of nominating representatives from institutions in the State to the Indian Historical Records Commission, its Sub-Committees and such other bodies; and

(iii) to advise Government to look after historical monuments and sites not looked after by the Archaeological Department of the Government of India and to suggest ways and means for their conservation, etc.

3. The term of office of the members shall ordinarily be three years from the date of this order extensible by order of Government to a term not exceeding in the aggregate five years.

4. The Director of Archives and Historical Monuments will be the general editor of the Bombay Record Series, but wherever necessary the services of other experts should be utilised for editing any particular volume.

5. The Board should associate with itself for any particular purpose or area such number of experts as co-opted members not exceeding ten and such number of Associate members not exceeding ten, as the Board may consider necessary.

6. The Board will meet at least once a year, at such place as may be decided upon by the Chairman. The members of the Board will be entitled to travelling allowance in accordance with scale I to rule 1(1)(b) in Section I for Appendix XL-II-A of the Bombay Civil Services Rules Volume II for journeys undertaken by them to attend the meetings of the Board and for work relating to the functions of the Board mentioned in para 2. The Director of Archives and Historical Monuments should be authorised to countersign the Travelling Allowance and Daily Allowance bills of Non-Official members of the Board.

7. The expenditure should be debited to the budget head "28-Education-E-General-E-Miscellaneous (2) Other Committees—(R)(2)-(3) other Grants-Boards and Committee-Board for Historical Records and Ancient Monuments" and should be met from the provision made thereunder.

8. This resolution issued with the concurrence of the Finance Department vide its unofficial memorandum No. 16727/2458-II, dated 12th July, 1963.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

M. A. DHUMAL  
*Under Secretary to Government.*

## APPENDIX D

### Reports on the activities of the Regional Records Survey Committees during 1961-65

Reports received from some of the Regional Records Survey Committees regarding survey of records in private custody during 1961-65 are summarised below :—

*Andhra Pradesh* : The Regional Historical Records Survey Committee was first constituted in December 1959. It was reconstituted in October 1962 and again in December 1964. The Minister for Excise, Prohibition and Cultural Affairs is the President of the Committee; the Director of the State Archives is the ex-officio Secretary; and there are 11 members. The actual work of survey of records is entrusted to an Executive Committee, constituted in April 1965, of which the Director of State Archives, Heads of the Departments of the three Universities in Andhra Pradesh and the Director of Archaeology are members. There are two Research Assistants. Actual surveying could only be taken up in 1965, and the information collected has been passed on to the National Archives of India under the National Register Scheme. The Committee has been of assistance in the acquisition of the rich Salar Jung collection by the State Archives. At its meeting in May 1966, it has decided to print the *Jamabandi* Records in modern Telugu with English translation and critical notes.

*Assam* : During 1961-62, the records of the Old Records Room at Gauhati and certain repositories of old Estates in the Goalpara District were surveyed. Among the revenue records of the former, the Committee came across documents known as *Pera Kakal* (Revenue Records) and copper plates grants of 1650-1800 period. The grants relate to donations of land by the Ahom rulers to temples and individual Brahmin families.

During 1962-63, a further scrutiny of records of the Old Record Room at Gauhati brought to light 39 important documents and they were copied out as the originals had become worn out. They relate to land grants by the Muslim rulers of Bengal and the Ahom rulers to temples and individuals, mainly Brahmin donees. They throw considerable light on the revenue administration of Assam prior to the coming of the British. Their chronological range is 1714-1810.

During 1963-64, the Secretary of the Committee visited the Sahitya Sabha Library, the Maharaja's personal library and the State Library, and also the Record Room of the Deputy Commissioner in Cooch Behar. Besides a large number of manuscripts in Assamese, Bengali and Sanskrit found



in these institutions, a few valuable documents throwing light of Assam-Cooch-Bihar-Bhutan relations during the Company days were located in the Record Room. Further, some 60 documents in the Old Record Room at Gauhati pertaining to land grants (*Pera Kakal*) of the Ahom rulers were copied out. These relate to demarcation and mutation cases also.

During 1964-65, 35 important documents were located in Kamrup District and copied out. Sixteen of them were copper plates, most of them in Assamese and Sanskrit and 1 in Tai language. A few of the records were also in Bengali and English. The documents related to demarcation of the frontiers of Bhutia and Aka, grant of lands by Ahom rulers, and matters relating to the pension of ex-rulers of Assam and their relatives.

During 1965-66, the Research Officer of the Department visited Bilasipara and Gauripur in Dhubri circle. At Bilasipur, many valuable records concerning Chapor Estate were located, especially a genealogical chart and three manuscript copies of the history of the Zamindari family. At Gauripur, a good number of Badshahi Sanads and 10 Registers of Games were found at the residence of Sri P. C. Barua.

*Bihar* : The Annual Reports of the Regional Records Survey Committee of Bihar for 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63 have been published, and that for the two subsequent years is in Press. The Reports may be consulted for details. In March 1960, Professor S. H. Askari and Sri Q. Ahmad toured certain important places in the Saran District. At Siwan, some Persian Sanads of the Company period were found in the collection of Farid Khan of Mohalla Naya Qila. One of them is a sanad of 1784, Warren Hastings making a grant of Jagirs to Nawab Shariatullah, an ancestor of Farid Khan. At Hathwa, a collection of manuscripts belonging to the Raja was located, but could not be surveyed. At Kujhwa, many valuable papers were salvaged from the collection in the Imambara. There were many fine *Waslis* (Specimens of Calligraphy), the earliest of 1002 A. H. (1593 A.D.), and some from masters like Shah Mohammad Nishapuri and Jafar Hashmi. A number of old range books, and also a manuscript on Administration (*Dastur-ul-Amal*), presumably of the late 18th Century, were also located. At Zahedipur (District Balia), *Sanads, farmans, mahzarnamas*, etc. of the time of Akbar and Aurangzeb were located in the local library, and with Shah Nazir Sahib, a local Pir, and Zeyaul Haque, the local *Mukhia* and his brother. The collections of the last named were particularly good and impressive. A number of collections with private families in the Bhagalpur District were also surveyed.

At the Darbhanga Raj Archives, Shri J. S. Jha took up the examination of the famine records, the regular series of which begins in 1873. He also found here very interesting correspondence between the Maharaja of Darbhanga and A. O. Hume and others of the British Committee of the Indian National Congress during the critical days of the Committee's existence.

Shri B. P. Ambasthya, Research Fellow, K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute, examined some of the old Persian papers preserved in Dumraon Raj and listed over 116 documents given in the Report. Shri Ved Prakash, a Patna University research scholar, came across over 32 original old records relating to Sikh Shrines, scattered in the various District Record Rooms of the State, and these have been listed in the Report.

During 1961-62, due to the exertions of the committee, the valuable family papers of the Raja of Tilothu (Shri R. P. Sinha) and Baboo of Nokha were donated to the K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute. In April 1961 and again on a later occasion, Dr. Q. Ahmad and Dr. J. S. Jha inspected the Persian records preserved in the Raj Archives at Bettiah. Here is a rare collection of the Estate records of the Bettiah Rajas dealing with revenue and judicial matters. There is a particular group of papers called "Dowry Papers", which relate to the earlier grants to the Raj and some of the grants made by the Bettiah Rajas themselves. One series of this collection throws a flood of light on the exploitation of the cultivators by the indigo planters, and the efforts made by the Rajas to protect the peasantry. Here was also found a small but valuable collection of some rare Urdu Diwans of *Zahik*, *Ishq*, and *Joshish*, and also many works on History, Music, Lexicography, etc. In June 1961 Dr. J. S. Jha and Dr. Ahmad inspected the unpublished series of Mint Records at the National Archives of India and studied the papers relating to the working of the Patna Mint during 1792-96. Some extracts from the papers are given in the report. In December at Darbhanga, Dr. Jha came across a collection of diaries of Shri Harekishan Chaudhary, who was a member of the Legislative Council of Bihar in 1932. Dr. Bimla Prasad inspected the collection of private letters of Dr. Sachchindanand Sinha, and a couple of them from distinguished contemporaries like Rabindranath Tagore and Sir Mirza Ismail are published in the Report. Shri B. P. Ambasthya studied the Amthua collection of *farmans* and *parwanas* of the Mughal times in the Oriental Public Library, Patna, and prepared a descriptive list of 150 of them, which has been published in the Report.

During 1962-63, following the appointment of Dr. K. K. Datta as Vice-Chancellor of the Magadh University, the Regional Records Survey Committee was reconstituted with 13 members and Dr. Datta as President, a post which was newly provided. Dr. Q. Ahmad examined the private collection of the late Ilyas Rahmani of Champabagh, Darbhanga. It is copious with *farmans*, *sanads*, etc., Persian manuscripts and old Government reports, books and journals. At Bettiah Raj Archives, Dr. Ahmad examined more manuscripts, 50 of which have been listed in the Report. One of them is a very rare and important manuscript entitled *Dastur-ul-Amal* compiled by Khwaja Yasin Ajiz at the instance of James Grant. It contains the meanings of and notes upon the different technical terms (both Persian and Hindi) used in the revenue and administration of the Mughal period. At Khagra Raj Archives, Dr. Ahmad examined the records of one of the oldest Estates of

the Purnea District. At Ramnagar (District Champaran), the records and manuscripts of Raja Narain Bikran Sah of the Ramnagar Estate were examined. It is particularly rich in books on History, seven of them containing an account of the reign of Shah Jahan. In July 1962, Dr. J. S. Jha visited Darbhanga Raj Archives and came across records throwing light on different aspects of the Raj administration during its management by the Court of Wards (1860-78) and afterwards. Special mention may be made of a report on the Raj administration while under the Court of Wards by Col. Burn, General Manager of the Raj, and also of a very interesting records on the opening of the Ganga Canal at Hardwar. Shri B. P. Ambashthya examined a valuable collection of *farmans*, *parwanas* etc., in the possession of Shri Fakhr-i-Alam at Mohalla Khalifa Bagh (Bhagalpur) and a list of 77 documents prepared by him is published in the Report. In the Darbhanga Collectorate Shri Masoom Raza Kazimmi traced out 18 original *farmans* and as many as 125 *sanads* and *parwanas*; a list of some of the documents is given in the Report.

**Madras :** During 1961-62, the Districts of Tinnevely, Madurai, Ramnad and Tiruchirapalli were surveyed. A number of papers relating to pearl fishery and disputes of the Bharatha community were found in the possession of the family of Jathithalaivanar. These were not listed in view of their restricted scope. At Idaiyankottai (District Madurai), 17 bundles of paper records and 72 bundles of *Kadjan* leaf records were scrutinised, and these referred to the day to day administration of the Zamindari. The 17 documents of Udayarpalayam Zamin that were located reveals how gradually the Trichy District was brought under British Control. At Thanjavur, there are two noteworthy collections. That of Shri Kandaswami Pillai consists of 9 English and 80 Modi records of 1776-1850. These are correspondence between the British Government and the Rajas of Thanjavur. The other collection containing 100 letters, known as "Pingle Records", in the possession of Sri P. N. Rao comprises correspondence exchanged with the Collector of Tinnevely and *Tahsildars* on revenue matters. Sri Rao has also a collection of 250 records in Modi script which contains correspondence between the Raja of Thanjavur and the King of Denmark about purchase of ships and other matters.

During 1962-63, the Districts of Coimbatore and Thanjavur and parts of Salem and Tiruchirapalli were surveyed. At Palayamkottai (District Erode), 14 valuable documents relating to the powerful Manradiyar family were located and they cover the period 1210 to 1839. They throw light on the family's relations with Hyder and Tipu. Large numbers of records of 1798-1892 were also obtained from the members connected with the Rajas of Thanjavur and these throw a flood of light on the history of the family.

During 1963-64, the Districts of Salem, Chingleput, Tirunelveli and Ramanathapuram were covered, and the number of isolated documents in

the hands of individuals was quite large. Some of the important collections and papers traced were 8000 letters of the late Sri Vijayaraghavachariar, the eminent Congress leader (1885-1935); a silver medal presented by Louis XIV of France in the possession of the late Meer Ghulam Ali; the papers of Uthumalai Zamindari (1850-60); the papers of Medai Dhalavoy family going back to 1801, about 2000 bundles of "*Olugu Olai*", dealing with revenue matters, of the Ramanathapuram Estate; the correspondence between the Sethupathis of Ramnad and the Dutch, specially dealing with pearl fishery (1680-1790) and certain *Suvadis* dealing with sale of slaves and land in Sivakasi. During this year, over 2000 records were listed for the National Register.

During 1964-65, Madurai, Kanyakumari, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli (Pudukottai Taluk) and Ramnathapuram were covered. The Madura Mission Archives at Shembaganur was found to be in possession of 956 photostat copies of documents at the Vatican relating to missionary activities since 1540. Of the large number of the other papers located may be mentioned the *Kadjan* leaf records in the Alagiapandiapuram Mudaliar's house which throws light on the history of Nanchi Nad in the 17th and 18th centuries; *Suvadis* giving a history of the Nadars and the Narigudi Chartram records going back to early 18th century. During the year, 189 records were listed for the National Register.

During 1965-66 Chingleput, Tiruchirapalli, Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli Districts were covered. Of the important records located may be mentioned the temple records at Achirapakkam, Mathurarthakam and Tiruvadisuram; the family records of Sri Vajudeen of Tiruchirapalli and Shri Vincent Durai of Neerapalani which throw light on the affairs of the province under the Nawabs in the 17th—18th centuries; the papers of the London Mission Church at Myladi and St. Francis Xavier Church at Kottar, which trace back missionary activity in the area to 1544 and the Church records of Palayamkottai, Alanthalai and Adaikalapuram which shed light on the social history of the Paravas and the Nadars in the 17th—18th centuries. All the records scrutinised in the four Districts were listed for the National Register.

*Maharashtra* : Acquisition, publication and inspection of records in the State are vested in the Maharashtra State Board for Archives and Archaeology, constituted in July, 1963, and the Director of Archives and Historical Monuments is Member Secretary.

Prof. G. H. Khare, a member of the Board, had visited Aurangabad and Bid in 1961 and inspected a few papers in the custody of Eknath Samshodan Mandal, Aurangabad. Two *Bakhars* and a *Farsi Farman* of Shahjahan were found in the collection. In 1964-65, Prof. Khare was

deputed by the Board to examine records pertaining to the Maratha period in the Rajasthan State Archives, Bikaner. In November 1961 Sarvashri S. G. Chatte and Y. K. Deshpande had undertaken a joint survey in the Nagpur Division. They located some documents in the possession of Gram Joshi family at Brahmpuri. They contain 12 *sanads*, one issued by the Gond Chief of Chanda and others issued by Tuloji Pant. While surveying the Marathwada region, Shri V. A. Kanole collected documents pertaining to Netaji Palkars' heirs, and he has been requested to make them available to the Board. *Aitihasak Sadhane* (1588-1821) by late Shri Avalaskar has been published under the auspices of the Board.

*Mysore* : As a first step to take up an intensive survey of records, the Regional Records Survey Committee has compiled a list of places which are likely to yield documents of historical interest. The detailed survey conducted in different parts of the State have yielded a rich harvest. At Arakalgud (District Hassan), 99 records of 1830-60 have been collected, and these throw light on the judicial and revenue administration of Mysore when it was administered by the Company. Some of the documents go back to the time of the Coorg Rajas. At T. Narasipur (District Mysore), a palm leaf manuscript with copies of documents of 1749-78 has been obtained and it throws light on revenue administration in the 18th century. The records collected from the *Maths* at Udipi (District South Kanara) are of 17th—19th centuries. An old, bound book of the last century found here contains *Nirupasi* issued by rulers and leading officers like Bhadrappa Naik, Chennammaji, Hyder Ali, Krishnaraja Wodeyar III, etc. At Vittal (South Kanara District), a valuable collection of the records of the Vittala Heggade family has been found in the possession of Ravivarma Krishnaraja, a direct descendant. The chronological range of the records is from 1800 to 1866, and include both accounts and correspondence. The former would be invaluable for reconstructing the economic history of the times. The latter relate mostly to day to day affairs like land dealings, monetary transactions, court cases, etc. Of the other places surveyed wherein valuable records of 17th—19th centuries were located may be mentioned Chitradurga, Harihar and Gubbi, Hosahali and Yadeyur in Tumkur District. One of them gives in detail the lives of the saints of the Siddalingeswara Swami *Math* from 15th century onwards. Another collection throws light on the career of Honappaji Urs, an important chief under the early Mysore Rajas.

The Committee at its meeting on 2 January 1966, has recommended that a State Archives should be set up and attached to the Department of Archaeology, Mysore.

*Orissa* : During 1961-62, 380 records belonging to three *Maths* in the Puri District were surveyed and listed by the Regional Records Survey Committee. In 1962-63, the Committee became defunct but the work was continued by the Secretary, who surveyed and listed 175 non-archival and 75

archival records. The work was resumed only in April, 1964 when the Committee was reconstituted. In 1964-65, 464 records in the Civil Court were surveyed and listed. In 1965-66, 126 records in private possession and 104 private records in the Record Room of the Civil Court were surveyed and listed. Since 1960, the Committee has acquired 294 records, 20 palm leaves and other manuscripts and 8 coins.

*Punjab* : The Regional Records Survey Committee was first constituted in July 1962 and again in April 1964. Its term expired in April, 1965 and has not since been reconstituted. No Survey work has been done for want of requisite staff.

*Rajasthan* : The State Regional Records Survey Committee was constituted in November 1961. As a result of its efforts, a large number of records have been donated to the State Archives by Shri Mehta Sangram Singh of Udaipur (16,800 documents) and Shri Shir Singh Choyal of Mathania in Jodhpur (*Parwands*, *Kharitas* and manuscripts), and others. A number of old and rare books have also been acquired from Shri Mahavir Prasad and others of Bikaner. The records of a number of Princely families and other individuals were surveyed, e.g. Raja Sahib of Khetri, Thakur Sahib of Uniara, H. H. the Maharaja of Udaipur, H. H. the Maharaja of Kishengarh, Raja Sahib of Khandela, H. H. the Maharaja of Jodhpur and Seth Karnidan Singh Mehta. Copies of a number of documents were also obtained. Besides, the records of the various District Congress Committees and the erstwhile Praja Mandals have been surveyed and taken over.

*Uttar Pradesh* : The Regional Records Survey Committee for the State was reconstituted in June 1961 and again in October 1964. A Purchase Committee has also been set up for assisting in examining and evaluating the records, manuscripts, etc. for purchase. Both the Bodies have met several times, and important acquisitions through gift or purchase made. Over 12,000 manuscripts and documents have been accessioned. Among the documents acquired are original letters of Begum Samru and Sir Walter Sherer, the latter containing his personal reminiscences at Fatehpur during 1857-58.

*West Bengal* : No work was done during 1961-65. The Regional Records Survey Committee has been reconstituted in February 1966, with Dr. N. K. Sinha as Chairman and the Director of State Archives as Secretary. The Committee had its first meeting on 16th July, 1966 wherein a general plan of work was chalked out. As a preliminary to an intensive survey, it is proposed to draw up a list of old families in West Bengal who may be in possession of valuable papers.

## APPENDIX E

### Proceedings of the Third Meeting of the National Register Committee held on the 10th August, 1961

The Third meeting of the National Register Committee was held on the 10th August, 1961 at 11.30 in the room of the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Education. The following were present :

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| Shri P. N. Kirpal | (in Chair) |
| Prof M. Mujeeb    | Member     |
| Dr. P. Saran      | Member     |
| Shri S. Roy       | Member     |

Shri R. P. Naik, Joint Secretary to the Government of India, and *Ex-Officio* Chairman of the Committee, could not attend owing to his unavoidable absence from Delhi.

2. The Committee discussed the recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation (Paras 136, 148 and 176-191) pertaining to records and manuscripts in private custody and the National Register Scheme and endorsed these recommendations.

3. In pursuance of its recommendation made at the Second meeting for setting up of a Central Organization for implementation of the National Register Scheme the Committee decided to recommend the creation of the following posts for the proposed Office :

- 1 Registrar : in the pay scale of Rs. 1000—50—1250.
- 4 Field Officers : in the pay scale of Rs. 500—30—800.
- 1 Stenographer : in the pay scale of Rs. 210—10—290—15—320—EB—15—425.
- 2 Stenotypists : in the pay scale of Rs. 130—5—160—8—200—EB—8—256—EB—280—10—300.
- 2 Peons : in the pay scale of Rs. 70—1—80—EB—1—85.

The Committee felt the Registrar responsible for the National Register work, should be an officer, of high status as it would be his duty to maintain liaison between the Centre and States and promote survey and registration of private records. The post should be filled by a person with thorough knowledge of Indian History and experience of records survey work. It was also felt that the appointments in the proposed central Office of the Registrar should be made for a period of at least five years. The Committee also felt that the work might normally be confined at the initial stage to a region comprising three or four states (Delhi, Rajasthan, Punjab and

Uttar Pradesh) and should be gradually extended to other regions as more and more experience in the field was gained.

4. The Committee reviewed the progress of work done by the participating States during 1960-61 and the question of utilization of the Central grant-in-aid, a substantial portion of which remained unspent during the year. The Committee felt that the main reason for this unsatisfactory position was the absence of suitable organizations in the States for the execution of the Scheme. It was also felt that the Central grant-in-aid to States was inadequate and that the survey and registration work could not be conducted properly unless the State Governments were prepared to spare substantial funds for the work. The Committee decided to recommend that Central Government should raise substantially grant-in-aid and that they should agree to give matching grants to each of the participating States to the extent of Rs. 20,000 per annum. Such grants, the Committee felt, should be assured for a minimum period of five years and should be made conditional on the State concerned agreeing to set up a suitable organisation for carrying on the work with a regular staff attached to it on a long term basis.

5. The Committee carefully considered the proposals contained in the letter dated 13th October, 1960 from the Government of Uttar Pradesh (Department of Cultural Relations and Scientific Research) in regard to the National Register Scheme and took the following decisions :

- (i) The registration work should not be confined to records which are more than hundred years old. The archival accumulation of later date if considered to be valuable and worthy of preservation should also be registered.
- (ii) As decided at the second meeting of the National Register Committee, the National Register Scheme should be confined to archival collections and therefore there is no need for classification of material to be registered into archival and non-archival groups. There is, however, no objection to States compiling a separate register for non-archival items.
- (iii) As decided at the second meeting of the Committee, State Governments should be allowed to follow their own pattern for description of records and they need not rigidly conform to the proforma prepared by the Central Committee so long as all the relevant information is included in the Register.
- (iv) The machinery in States for collection of information for the National Register should be set up by the State Government according to their local needs.
- (v) The proforma need not be printed centrally and this should be arranged by the States.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



## APPENDIX F

### Report of Research Work done by the Members of the Indian Historical Records Commission

*Dr. Raghubir Singh, Sitamau*

1. Edited "Ratan-Raso" a 17th century poetical work of history narrating the battle of Dharmat.
2. Preparing a revised edition of "Travels in Western India" a posthumous work of Tod.

*Dr. P. Saran, Hyderabad*

1. Published a catalogue of "Non-Persian Sources of Mediaeval Indian History."
2. Edited a volume of "Persian Akhbars."
3. Editing and translating "Ain-i-Akbari."
4. Preparing a dictionary of architectural terms.

*Rev. Anthony D'Costa, Bombay*

Working on the following to elucidate the social history of the 16th—18th centuries and to complete the political history of the period.

1. Council Diaries of the East India Company's Bombay Government in the Maharashtra State Archives.
2. Microfilms of documents in the Goa State Archives.

*Dr. R. M. Sinha, Jabalpur*

(a) Edited the following :

1. Elphinstone Correspondence, 1804-1808, jointly with Dr. A. Awasthi.
2. Annual Bulletin of the Nagpur University Historical Society, 1956.
3. University Journal of History, Jabalpur.
4. Report of the Regional Records Survey Committee, Nagpur, 1956.

(b) Published "1857 in Jabalpur District" in 1957.

(c) Contributed seven chapters in "The History of Freedom Movement in Madhya Pradesh," dealing with the period from 1858 to 1885.

(d) Wrote research papers for :

1. Journal of Indian History.
2. Journal of Numismatic Society of India.
3. Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission and Indian History Congress.
4. University Journals of History, Jabalpur and Nagpur.

(e) Worked on the following :

1. Records of the Anglo-Bhonsla history kept in Nagpur Record Room and the National Archives of India, New Delhi.
2. Old newspapers files in the National Archives of India, New Delhi and the National Library, Calcutta from 1858 to 1885.
3. Confidential records of the Political and Military Department from 1872 to 1947 in the Nagpur Secretariat.

(f) Working on a book Anglo-Bhonsla System of Administration, 1818-1854.

*Dr. S. P. Sen, Calcutta*

Working on the following :

1. Dictionary of Biographies of Indian Nationalist-Leaders.
2. History of the Freedom Movement in the former French Possessions in India.

*Dr. Hira Lal Gupta, Sagar*

(a) Published the following papers :

1. The Bundela Rebellion, 1842 (Journal of Indian History, Vol. XVI, Part I).
2. Banswara Succession (Journal of Indian History, Vol. XLII, Part III).
3. The Maratha hold over Saugor (Journal of Allahabad Historical Society, Vols. II & III).
4. Mediaeval and Modern History of Saugor District (District Gazetteer of Saugor).

(b) Contributed the following :

1. The Christian Missions and their impact on India in the pre-mutiny period—Seminar on the ideas motivating Social and Religious Movements and Politics and Economic Policy during 18th and 19th centuries organised by the University of Delhi.
2. Archival material as a source of history—Seminar on History organised by the United States Information Service, Bombay.

*Dr. O. Ramachandriah, Waltair*

1. Working on The Early History of the Andhras.
2. Directing doctoral research on the Social and Economic Life of Andhra Pradesh during the last one century.

*Dr. S. N. Prasad, New Delhi*

Supervised the following publications :

1. History of the Royal Indian Air Force.
2. Defence of India : Policy and Plans.
3. India and the War, 1939-45 (in Press).

Besides, research work on the detailed histories of several operations by the Indian Armed Forces since Independence has been taken up.

*Shri B. K. Apte, Nagpur*

Working on Raghuji Bhonsla I of Nagpur.

*Shri Negular Ranganath, Dharwar*

Working on Shri-Chidambar Swami of Murgod (Belgaon).

*Dr. H. K. Barpujari, Gauhati*

(a) Published the following :

1. Assam: In the Days of the Company, 1826-58.
2. The Attempted Traffic with the Chinese through the North East Frontier 1826-58 (Indian History Congress Proceedings, 1961).
3. The Judicial Panchayats in Assam, 1826-58 (Journal of Indian History, Vol XII, Part II, 1964).
4. Management and Control of the Religious Endowments in Assam, 1826-58 (Journal of the Gauhati University, Vol. XIV, 1966).

(b) Read a paper on "North-East Frontier Tribes, their Commercial Activities during first half of the 19th Century" at the Himalayan Seminar, New Delhi, December, 1965.

(c) Working on the "Problems and Policies towards the Hill Tribes, North East Frontier, 1826-74".

*Dr. Ganda Singh, Patiala*

Edited and published the following :

1. Early European Accounts of the Sikhs (Indian Studies, Past and Present, Calcutta, 1962).
2. Some Confidential Papers of the Akali Movement (Sri Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar, 1965).

3. Bhagat Lakshman Singh : Autobiography (Sikh Cultural Centre, Calcutta, 1965).
4. A Select Bibliography of the Sikhs and Sikhism (Sri Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar, 1965).
5. A Bibliography of the Punjab (Punjabi University, Patiala, 1966).
6. Christianity in the Panjab : A Bibliographical Survey (Christian Retreat and Study Circle, Dehra Dun, 1966).
7. Some Non-Muslim Sources of the History of the Punjab during the Mediaeval period, April 1966).
8. The Haryana-Sikh Relations (Haryana Research Journal, May, 1966).
9. The Maratha-Sikh Relations (Pawar Commemoration Volume, July, 1966).
10. Punjab 1849-1960 (Panjabi Sahit Akademy, Ludhiana and Khalsa College, Patiala, 1962) (*in Panjabee*).
11. Dr. Bhai Jodh Singh : A Biography (Panjabi Sahit Akademy, Ludhiana and Khalsa College, Patiala) (*in Panjabee*).
12. Some Problems of Sikh History (Sri Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee, 1964).
13. Si-Harfian Hari Singh Nalwa by Kadiryar-a historical ballad (Punjabi University, Patiala, September, 1965) (*in Panjabee*).
14. Kuliyat-i-Bhai Nandlal (Sikh Sangat, Malacca, Malaysia 1963) (*in Persian*).

*Dr. A. L. Srivastava, Agra*

- (a) Akbar the Great, Vol. I : Political History, 1542-1605 (Published in July, 1962).
- (b) Akbar the Great, Vol. II: Evolution of Administration (in the Press).
- (c) Edited Uttara Bharati, 1960-64.
- (d) Contributed research papers to :
  1. The Journal of Indian History, Trivandrum.
  2. Institute of Historical Studies Quarterly, Calcutta.
  3. The Uttara Bharati.

*Dr. A. R. Kulkarni, Poona*

Working on the following :

1. Haripant Phadke.
2. Important Forts of Maharashtra.

3. Grant Duff in Satara.
4. Shivaji and Jai Singh.
5. Paithan.

*Dr. J. N. Sarkar, Calcutta*

(a) Published the following :

1. English Translation of "Haft Anjuman" by Udairaj *alias* Tale-yar Khan (Bengal : Past and Present, Volumes LXXXI to LXXXIV).
2. Mirza Raja Jai Singh and Shivaji (Journal of Indian History, April, 1964).
3. Jai Singh's policy and work in Bijapur (Journal of Indian History, December, 1965).
4. History of Patna College, 1863-1963 (in collaboration with Dr. J. C. Jha).
5. Private trade in seventeenth century India upto 1675 (J.H.R.S., Darbhanga Volume, Part II, 1963).
6. The Imperial monopoly in Indigo, 1633-35' (J.H.R.S.).
7. Monopolies and monopolistic controls in Mughal India (Quarterly Review of Historical Studies, Vol. IV, No. 4, 1964-65).
8. Ideas of History in Mediaeval India (Quarterly Review of Historical Studies, Vol. IV, Nos. 1-2, 1964-65).

(b) Submitted the following :

1. Indigo as a form of Commercial Agriculture during the first half of the seventeenth century (Indian History Congress, December, 1965).
2. Role of expediency in political life in pre-Akbar period—Seminar on ideas motivating history in mediaeval period organised by the University of Delhi, November, 1965.
3. Personal history of some mediaeval historians—Seminar on History and Historians of Mediaeval India organised by Jamia Millia, Delhi, January, 1966.

## APPENDIX G

### Constitution of the Indian Historical Records Commission, 1965\*

The Indian Historical Records Commission was set up by the Government of India in 1919 as a consulting body, whose opinion would carry weight with the public and which would make enquiries and recommendations regarding (i) treatment of archives for historical study, (ii) the scale and plan on which the cataloguing, the calendaring and reprinting of each class of documents should be undertaken, (iii) the sums required for encouraging research among, and publication of, records, (iv) selection of competent editors for the publishing of documents, and (v) the problem of public access to records (Department of Education Resolution No. 77, 21 March 1919). With a view to promoting active co-operation of the different Governments in India as also the universities and learned institutions in the country in the activities of the Commission, the Government of India by their Department of Education and Health Resolution No. F. 92-9/41-E, dated 16th September 1941, took steps to reform the constitution of the Commission providing for the inclusion in it of nominees of the various Governments in India as also those of the universities and learned societies.

2. The Commission has since its inception held 36 sessions and its Research and Publication Committee, which has been in existence since 1942, 31 meetings at various important academic centres in India, and has contributed significantly to the growth of public interest in the conservation and use of archives. Government recognise that it was through the initiative of the Commission and its different Committees that many new sources of information have been brought to light and saved to posterity, many collections of documents have been published and made accessible to scholars, facilities for the use of records have been materially enhanced and a new conscience has been kindled in the public mind in respect to the sanctity of historical evidence. While Government have noted with very deep appreciation these and other achievements of the Commission, they feel at the same time that much work still remains to be done and that a host of important problems are still awaiting to be attacked. Many record-collections are still without any guides or keys, let alone comprehensive descriptive lists, and very few repositories, public or private, have yet developed a well-articulated programme of document-publication. Most of the collections still continue to be housed in primitive conditions and to be subjected to the ravages of insect pests, moulds and other destructive agents. Very little systematic effort has been made to survey, describe, organise or

\*Ministry of Education, Government of India, Resolution No. F6/25/63-A.10(5), dated 20 November, 1965.

make use of records in private custody, and particularly, those of institutional, religious or commercial provenance. Lack of trained archivists continues seriously to impede the archival work in the country and the training facilities available in the National Archives have hardly stimulated an adequate response among the owners of archival holdings. Government believe that these constitute very serious lacunae in the academic life of the nation and that greater and more wholehearted co-operation between Keepers of records and historical materials on the one hand and their users on the other are the only means by which these deficiencies could be removed.

3. In order to promote such co-operation the Government of India, in supersession of the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research Resolution No. F.8-2/57-C.2, dated 28th August 1957 and all earlier Resolutions on the same subject, are pleased to sanction a reconstitution of the Commission on the following lines :

I. The Commission shall in future consist of the following members :

A. *Ordinary Members* :

- (1) The Education Minister, Government of India—*ex-officio* President.
- (2) A representative of the Ministry of Education.
- (3) Three eminent historians or archivists appointed by the Government of India on the basis of their specialised knowledge of the treatment of archives or their original contribution to the modern period of Indian history.
- (4) The Director of Archives, Government of India—*ex-officio* Secretary.
- (5) One nominee each of the State Governments, having an organised record repository of its own, the nominee being invariably the custodian of the State Archives.
- (6) One nominee each from such universities in India having a faculty of history of its own as may encourage research among, and publication of, original records and co-operate with the Commission in organising its own archives and in conducting survey and exploration of records in private and semi-public custody.
- (7) One nominee each from such learned institutions, research bodies, or repositories approved by the Government of India as may have archival holdings of their own, or may be actively engaged in original research among such records, and may co-operate with the Commission in conducting survey and exploration of records in private and semi-public custody and in promoting archival programmes sponsored by the Commission.

### B. Corresponding Members :

The selection of members in this category will be confined to persons actively interested in records, only published works of sufficient merit being accepted as evidence of such interest. Their number should not exceed twenty, excluding persons residing outside India.

The Government of India desire that nominees of the State Governments should be persons thoroughly conversant with archives and archival techniques and that the nominees of universities, learned institutions and other research bodies should be men of academic distinction with considerable amount of original research work on the history of India of the post-1500 period to their credit. The nominees of all these bodies will technically become members of the Commission after their nomination has been formally approved by the Government of India. The Corresponding Members are to be selected and appointed by the Government of India.

The Ordinary Members of the Commission other than *ex-officio* Ordinary Members and also all Corresponding Members of the Commission will be appointed for a term of five years as follows :

- (1) All appointments and re-appointments for a full term of five years will be made *en bloc* with effect from the same date, but on the expiry of their terms, the members concerned will be eligible for re-appointment.
- (2) Vacancy due to resignation or otherwise which may occur within the period of five years will not be filled for a full term of five years but only for the unexpired portion of the term.

II. The scope of the Commission's activities shall be limited to the following :

- (1) To act as a forum for exchange between custodians and users of archives and historical documents of ideas and experiences relating to treatment, preservation and use of archives, and to make recommendations to appropriate bodies, official or non-official, in this behalf.
- (2) To act as a forum for discussion on archives in relation to historical problems requiring investigation, particularly in relation to those on which little or no work has been done, and to hold seminars promoting such discussions at its annual or other meetings; and to promote discussions on disciplines ancillary to archives, such as Diplomatic, Sigillography, Paleography, Toponymy, and Heraldry.
- (3) To promote the salvaging and use of materials in private and semi-public custody (including institutional, religious, and business records) in collaboration with universities, libraries,



museums, learned societies and, particularly, with State Regional Survey Committees and similar local bodies; and to act as a clearing house of information on the work done in this field.

- (4) To act generally as an intermediary between record and historical manuscript repositories on the one hand and bodies interested in research on the other.
- (5) To publish proceedings and bulletins embodying reports on its activities and on other matters promoting its objective.

III. The Commission shall normally meet once a year, a place rich in archival materials being selected as the venue. Each session should include :

- (1) A public meeting devoted to the report presented by the Secretary on the archive work in the country and other reports that may be submitted by members to the Commission on archival and research activities or newly discovered source materials.
- (2) A business meeting for the discussion of problems relating to keeping and use of archives that may be referred to it by members and for review of programmes undertaken by different bodies under its auspices.
- (3) Discussion meetings or seminars held on source materials on one or more selected historical problems requiring investigation or any other ancillary matters. Topics for such discussions should be selected by the Commission at least one year in advance to enable the members to present papers on them in time.

For the purpose of efficient discharge of these duties the Commission may elect one or more Committees to deal with particular problems requiring investigation. Such Committees are to submit their reports to the Commission.

All members will be equally entitled to participate in all the meetings of the Commission except its business meetings to which only Ordinary Members will have the right to attend. Corresponding Members may attend the business meetings only by special invitation.

The Commission's meetings are to be presided over by the *ex-officio* President. He shall however have the right to nominate a senior member to act as President in his absence.

IV. The travelling allowance of the *ex-officio* President and Secretary of the Commission and the nominees of the Government of India (referred to in para. 3.I.A. above) will be a charge on the Central Revenues. The *ex-officio* President and Secretary, and such nominees of Government of India (referred to in para. 3.I.A. above) and such Committee members as

are Government servants will draw travelling allowances as on tour for attending the meetings of the Commission, or its Committees, and the expenditure will be debitable to the same head as their pay.

Non-officials appointed by the Government of India as Ordinary Members (*see* para. 3.I.A) will draw travelling allowances for attending meetings of the Commission or its Committees at rates admissible to Grade I Officers of the Central Government and daily allowance at the highest rate admissible to Grade I Officers of the Central Government for respective localities. The expenditure will be met from the budget grant of the National Archives of India. Persons appointed as Corresponding Members will bear their own expenditure on T.A. etc. for attending the meetings. The State Governments, the universities, and other constituent institutions will be required to bear the travelling allowances of their nominees. The travelling allowance and daily allowance for non-official members other than Central Government's nominees, who may be appointed to serve on any Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission will be paid at the same rate as those of non-official members appointed by the Central Government as Ordinary Members (para. 3.I.A. above).

## APPENDIX H

### Constitution of the National Committee of Archivists

No. F. 92-16/53-A.2

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Ministry of Education

New Delhi-2, the 1st September, 1953.

FROM : Shri T. S. Krishnamurti, M.Sc.,  
Assistant Secretray to the Government of India.

To : All State Governments.

SUBJECT :—*Meeting of the Directors of Archives of Madras, Bombay, Uttar Pradesh, Pepsu, Punjab and Hyderabad and the Director of Archives, Government of India at Bhopal—Decision to set up a National Committee of Archivists.*

SIR,

I am directed to invite a reference to this Ministry's letter No. F. 92/16/53-A-2, dated the 13th June, 1953, on the subject mentioned above and to say that it has since been decided by the Government of India to set up, under the Chairmanship of the Director of Archives, Government of India, a "National Committee of Archivists" comprising the Directors of Archives of those State Governments who have Records Offices. The main purpose of the Committee will be to exchange views amongst themselves to tackle certain definite problems which continually face them in their day-to-day discharge of duties and to bring about economy in expenditure relating to the costly problem of preservation of records. The Committee is neither intended to be a rival body to the Indian Historical Records Commission nor will it be required to advise the Government on general matters of records and historical research but its scope will be limited to tackling the technical problems concerning the administration of Archives and exchanging ideas.

2. The Committee will meet normally not more than twice a year and as one of the meetings will be held either immediately before or soon after the annual session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, travelling allowance, and daily allowance for the State's Archivist will be necessary for only one meeting a year. As the meeting may be held at different record offices in succession, the expenditure on T.A. and D.A. may not be much. No additional expenditure is likely to be incurred by the State Governments in this regard as the reports and brochures which the Committee may bring out will be roneoed at the National Archives of India.

3. I am to request that necessary co-operation of the State Government may kindly be extended to the Director of Archives, Government of India to make the Committee a success. The Director of Archives will also act as Convener of the meetings of the Committee and will inform direct the State Governments concerned of the dates of the meetings of the Committee.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) T. S. KRISHNAMURTI,  
*Assistant Secretary.*

## APPENDIX I

### Constitution of the Historical Documents Purchase Committee

No. F. 22-5/67-CAI-2

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

*Ministry of Education*

*New Delhi, the 31st March, 1967*

*10 Chaitra, 1889(S)*

To

The Director of Archives,  
National Archives of India,  
New Delhi.

SUBJECT :—*Reconstitution of the Historical Documents Purchase Committee.*

SIR,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter No. 6-13/63, dated the 20th July, 1963, regarding the constitution of the Historical Documents Purchase Committee, and to state that on the expiry of the two-year term of its members, the Government of India have been pleased to reconstitute the Committee as follows :—

#### A. Composition

1. Joint Secretary/Joint Educational  
Adviser (Concerned),  
Ministry of Education. *Chairman*
2. Prof. M. Mujeeb,  
Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia,  
New Delhi. *Member*
3. Dr. Yusuf Hussain,  
(Ex-Professor and Head of the Department of  
History, Osmania University and Ex-Pro-  
Vice Chancellor, Muslim University, Aligarh),  
6, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi. *Member*
4. Dr. Hari Ram Gupta,  
(Ex-Professor and Head of the Deptt. of  
History, Punjab University),  
8/78, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-26. *Member*

5. Director of Archives,  
National Archives of India,  
New Delhi.

*Member-Secretary.*

### **B. Tenure**

The Committee shall be due for reconstitution once in two years commencing from the date of the first meeting. The term of the office of the members shall also be two years, provided that any non-official member appointed to the Committee subsequent to the first meeting shall hold office for the rest of the term of the Committee. The non-official members may be re-appointed to the Committee whenever it is reconstituted.

### **C. Meetings**

The Committee may meet as often as may be necessary. The Secretary shall, however, consult the members particularly the non-official members, about their convenience before fixing dates for meeting.

### **D. Functions**

The Committee shall advise on the purchase of archival manuscripts and documents in private custody and also private papers of eminent statesmen, high Government officials, writers, scientists, and other Indians who have played significant roles in the country's history. In cases where this material is acquired by the Department either by way of gift, or deposit etc., complete information in respect of acquisition made should be placed subsequently before the Committee, and their advice as regards the proper place for any particular collection, e.g. National Archives, State Archives etc. shall be generally accepted or referred to Government for decision where necessary. The Committee may also recommend on its own the purchases of the materials mentioned above wherever expedient.

### **E. Procedure**

All proposals for the purchase of private archives etc. will be referred by the Member-Secretary with the approval of the Director of Archives, National Archives of India, to the Committee in the first instance either at a meeting or by circulation, giving a factual report on the material offered, indicating its significance. The Committee, besides expressing an opinion as to whether the material can be purchased, shall also fix a reasonable price to be offered to its owner.

Notwithstanding the above, with a view to avoid inordinate delays in the small purchases, when the recommendation of the Committee cannot be obtained in any particular case or cases within a reasonable time even by circulation, if the material for purchase is of the value of Rs. 500/- (Rupees five hundred only) or less, it may be purchased by the Director of Archives with the approval of the Chairman, who will also indicate, while giving

his approval, the reasonable price to be offered to the owner. Information regarding such purchases made without prior reference to the Committee shall invariably be placed before the Committee at its next meeting along with the information, if any, regarding the acquisition made either by gift or by deposit etc.

The purchase of private archives etc. approved by the Committee or the Chairman shall be made subject to the availability of funds and foreign exchange where necessary.

#### *F. General*

A meeting of the Committee may be convened even if the Chairman is not available, but the recommendations of the Committee made at such a meeting or meetings shall be placed before the Chairman for approval before they are implemented and expenditure from the public funds is incurred thereby.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) A. S. TALWAR,

*Under Secy. to the Government of India.*

APPENDIX J

**Constitution of the Advisory Committee on the Publication of Educational  
Records of the Government of India**

No. F. 4-56/57-C.2.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

*Ministry of Education & Scientific Research*

*New Delhi-2, the 8th October 1957.*

FROM :

Dr. G. F. LAKHANI,  
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India.

TO :

THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES,  
National Archives of India,  
New Delhi.

SUBJECT :—*Publication of Educational Records of the Government of  
India—Advisory Committee—Formation of*

SIR,

In continuation of this Ministry's letter No. F. 4-9/57-C.2, dated the 24th July, 1957, I am directed to say that it has been decided by the Government of India to set up a small Advisory Committee to guide the Director of Archives in the execution of the scheme relating to the Publication of old records on the History of Indian Education from the National Archives of India. The members of the Committee will be as follows :—

*Chairman*

1. Shri K. G. Saiyidain,  
Secretary, Department of General Education,  
Ministry of Education & Scientific Research,  
New Delhi.

*Chairman*

*Members*

2. Prof. M. Mujeeb,  
Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia,  
New Delhi.

*Member*



\*3. Dr. E. A. Pires,  
Principal, Central Institute of Education,  
Delhi.

*Member*

4. Shri J. P. Naik,  
Secretary, Mouni Vidyapeeth,  
Gargoti, Kolhapur,  
Bombay.

*Member*

*Secretary*

5. Director of Archives.

*Secretary*

All expenses incurred in connection with the meeting of the Advisory Committee will be met by the Government of India. Non-official members attending the meeting of the Advisory Committee will be paid travelling allowance at the rates admissible to Grade I Officers of the Central Government and daily allowances at the highest rates admissible to Grade I Officers of the Central Government at Delhi. The expenditure involved will be debitable to the sanctioned budget grant of the National Archives of India.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) G. F. LAKHANI  
*Deputy Secretary*

\*Shri T. K. N. Menon was appointed a Member in place of Dr. E. A. Pires in April, 1962 (*vide* Ministry of Education Letter No. 3/7-62-A.10, dated 12-4-62) and Again in December, 1963 Shri A. C. Devegowda became a member in place of Shri Menon (*vide* Ministry of Education notes dt. 26-12-63)

L2NAJ/67—14

## APPENDIX K

### List of Exhibits

#### NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

##### (A) *Documents on Gopal Krishna Gokhale\**

##### I. *Gokhale's aims in life*

1. What Gokhale wanted to achieve in his life-time, dated 5 February 1898. (Gokhale Papers F. No. 203-I.)

##### II. *Gokhale and the Servants of India Society*

2. Government of India Papers regarding the formation of the Servants of India Society, dated 12 June 1905. (Home Public Deposit, July 1905, No. 48.)
3. Letter from Gokhale to Mr. Pherozshah Mehta, dated 12 June 1905, regarding the opening of the Servants of India Society. (Gokhale Papers F. No. 203-I.)
4. Letter from Gokhale to Natesan, dated 1 August 1905, relating to the finances and general affairs of the Servants of India Society. (Gokhale Papers F. No. 203-I.)
5. The Constitution of the Servants of India Society. (Gopal Krishna Gokhale—A Centenary Tribute).

##### III. *Gokhale and Indians in South Africa*

6. Letter from M. K. Gandhi to Gokhale, dated 3 December 1906, suggesting the formation of a South Africa British Indian Committee in India to work for the welfare of the Indian settlers. (Gandhi Papers, F. No. 2246.)
7. Resolution forwarded to the Government of India by Gokhale on 18 February 1910, suggesting the immediate abolition of indentured labour to South Africa. (Legislative Department B March 1910, Nos. 144-148.)
8. Letter from the Aga Khan to Gokhale, dated 8 January 1910, contributing Rs. 4,000/- towards the fund for helping Indians in South Africa. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 242-I.)

\*In this birthday centenary year of Gopal Krishna Gokhale (b. 9 May 1866, d. 15 February, 1915), the National Archives of India presents select documents concerning the great leader from its "Gokhale Collection" and other private and official papers.

9. Letter from Ratan Tata to Gokhale, dated 22 September 1910, contributing Rs. 25,000/- towards the fund for helping Indians in South Africa. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 242-I.)
10. Letter from M. K. Gandhi to Gokhale, dated 17 June 1911, explaining the deplorable position of the Indians in South Africa. (Gandhi Papers, F. No. 2247.)
11. Letter from the Minister of the Interior, Union of South Africa to Gokhale, dated nil, welcoming Gokhale to the Union. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 242-I.)
12. Letter from the Acting Secretary for the Interior, Union of South Africa to Gokhale, dated 11 November 1912, informing him that M. K. Gandhi would not be allowed to be present at the time of his interviews with the Ministers at Pretoria. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 242-II.)
13. Letter from Lord Crewe to Gokhale, dated 19 July 1913, regarding Gokhale's scheme of sending a deputation of the representatives of the Government of India to South Africa for the implementation of the Indian Immigration Act. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 242-I.)
14. Letter from H. S. Polak to Gokhale, dated 1 June 1913, explaining the attitude of the Government of South Africa towards the problems of Indians. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 242-I.)

#### IV. *Gokhale and the constitutional and administrative reforms*

15. Letter from Gokhale to Nateshrao, dated 27 July 1906, explaining the views of Lord Merley regarding the reforms in the Legislative Council in India. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-I.)
16. Memorandum by Gokhale on Indian constitutional reforms submitted to the Secretary of State for India. (Home Public Deposit, January 1909, No. 43.)
17. Letters from Gokhale to Sir William Wedderburn, dated 24 September 1909, explaining his views on the Reforms and the critical political situation. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-II.)
18. Letter from Gokhale to the Secretary, Legislative Department, dated 22 January 1912, enclosing a resolution regarding the creation of District Councils for Collectors. (Home Public A, May 1912, No. 42.)
19. Gokhale's scheme for political reforms to be introduced in India prepared shortly before his death in 1915. (Home Political Deposit, August 1917, No. 5.)

20. Notification appointing Gokhale as an Additional Member of the Viceroy's Council. (Legislative Department B, July 1905, Nos. 151-155.)
21. Gokhale's views regarding Public Services in India. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 610-20.)
22. Letter from Gokhale to William Vincent, dated 11 January 1913, regarding the terms of his appointment as member of the Royal Commission on the Public Services in India. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-II.)
23. Letter from Gokhale to Lord Morley, dated 9 May 1897, explaining the effect of his teachings on the mind of the Indian people. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-I.)
24. Letter from Gokhale to Natesh Rao, dated 10 November 1905, explaining the results of his meetings with the Liberal leaders in England. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-I.)
25. A note by C. Y. Chintamani, dated 2 July 1925, explaining the views of Gokhale on the Indian Press Act of 1910. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 520.)
26. Letter from Gokhale to Lawrence, dated 29 January 1909, expressing his views regarding the separate representation of the Muslims in the Legislature, etc. (Gokhale Papers, No. 203-II.)

#### V. *Gokhale and the Indian National Congress*

27. Rough drafts of two leaflets by Gokhale entitled "The Indian National Congress, What is it?" and "What do Indian Reformers want?" (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 610-29.)
28. Letter from Lord Curzon to Gokhale, dated 31 December 1903, appreciating Gokhale's leadership of the Indian National Congress. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-III.)
29. Letter from William Wedderburn to Gokhale, dated 10 March 1908, forwarding a scheme for reorganising the Congress. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 579-I.)
30. Papers regarding the Indian National Congress Convention. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 610-10.)
31. Letter from Gokhale to Lord Morley of 1908, explaining the political situation in India. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-III.)
32. Letter from Mrs. Besant to Gokhale, dated 15 November 1914, for bringing about a compromise between the Extremists and the Moderates. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 51/1.)

33. Letter from Gokhale to Srinivasa Sastri, dated 25 December 1914, on Mrs. Annie Besant's interference in the affairs of the Congress. (Srinivasa Sastri Papers, No. 2169.)
34. Letter from Gokhale to M. K. Gandhi, dated 3 November 1911, regarding a proposal to nominate him as the President of the Congress. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203 II.)
35. Letter from Ramsay Macdonald to Gokhale, dated 3 February 1911, regarding the proposal to nominate him as the President of the Congress. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-II.)
36. Letter from Gokhale to Mrs. Besant, dated 5 January 1915, expressing his views regarding the difference between the Extremists and the Moderates. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 51/4.)
37. Letter from Dadabhai Naoroji to Gokhale, dated 3 August 1900, regarding the activities of the British Committee of the Indian National Congress in England. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 239.)

#### VI. *Gokhale and Education*

38. Copy of a letter from Gokhale to G. V. Joshi, dated nil, on his connection with the Deccan Education Society and his selection as the editor of the Journal of the Sarvajaniik Sabha. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-I.)
39. Letter from G. C. Bhate to Gokhale, dated 25 January 1905, accepting his resignation from the Deccan Education Society. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-III.)
40. Letter from Gokhale, dated 4 February 1905, to the Secretary, Legislative Department, sending a resolution regarding the action taken with reference to the Indian Universities Act, 1904. (Legislative Department B, February 1905, Nos. 100-102.)
41. Gokhale's Elementary Education Bill. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 174.)
42. Letter from Gokhale to the Secretary, Legislative Department, dated 18 February 1910, forwarding his resolution on Compulsory Elementary Education, which was his life's mission. (Legislative Department B, April 1910, Nos. 215-218.)
43. Letter from Maulvi Mohamed Aziz Mirza to Gokhale, dated 24 October 1911, forwarding the views of the All-India Muslim League on his Elementary Education Bill. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 174.)
44. Gokhale's statement on the importance of elementary education for the people. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 174.)

# **VII. Gokhale's refusal of the K.C.I.E.**

45. Letter from Home Peel to Gokhale, dated 16 June 1914, conveying the Government's desire to confer the title of K.C.I.E. on him. (Srinivasa Sastri Papers, No. 2188.)
46. Letter from Gokhale to Home Peel, dated 17 June 1914, expressing his inability to accept the title of K.C.I.E. (Srinivasa Sastri Papers, No. 2196.)
47. Letter from Lord Crewe to Gokhale, dated 20 June 1914, informing him of the withdrawal of his name from the Honours list. (Srinivasa Sastri Papers, No. 2200.)

# **VIII. Personal and Miscellaneous**

48. Speech of Gokhale in memory of M. G. Ranade. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-IV.)
49. Letter from Gokhale to the Editor of the "Times of India", dated 21 May 1907, criticising the Government's policy regarding the deportation of Lala Lajpat Rai. (Gokhale Papers, F. 296.)
50. Letter from Fazl-i-Husain to Gokhale, dated 25 February 1908, inviting Gokhale to address the meeting of the All-India Muslim League. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 180.)
51. Letter from M. A. Jinnah to Gokhale, dated 16 May 1914, inquiring about his health. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 254.)
52. Letter from Mrs. Sarojini Naidu to Gokhale, dated 14 October 1914, giving a poetic description of her voyage. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 363.)
53. Letter from Gokhale to Montague, dated 31 July 1912, congratulating him on his remarkable speech on India. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-II.)
54. Letter of appreciation from William Wedderburn to Gokhale, dated 28 January 1904, for his remarkable work for India's political development. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 579-I.)
55. Papers on Gokhale's apology to the Bombay Government for his comments on the highhandedness of the British soldiers during the plague operations at Poona. (Home Public Deposit, February 1906, No. 29.)
56. Letter from Gokhale to A. K. Ghosh, dated 15 January 1898, explaining the reasons for his tendering apology to the Bombay Government. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 12.)
57. Gokhale's not regarding his criminal proceedings against the "Hindu Punch". (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 203-III.)

58. Letter from Keir Hardie, the Socialist leader to Gokhale, dated 9 July 1907, regarding the purpose of his forthcoming visit to India. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 224.)
59. Copy of a letter from M. G. Ranade to Sir William Wedderburn, dated 19 March 1897, introducing Gokhale. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 443.)

IX. *Papers regarding the death of Gokhale*

60. Account of the death of Gopal Krishna Gokhale prepared by Dr. H. S. Deva, dated 27 February 1915. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 428.)
61. Registers containing condolence messages received from different persons and organisations on the death of Shri Gopal Krishna Gokhale. (Gokhale Papers, F. No. 117-I.)

(B) *Preservation of Records*

(i) *Enemies of Records*

62. *Book Worm (Gastrallus-Indicus)*

Book worm is a voracious eater of record materials. (Paper, board, cloth etc.). The species called *Gastrallus Indicus* is a common variety in our country. Eggs are usually laid near the surface of book-binding. The eggs are hatched within five to ten days, and the larvae eat their way into the interior of the book. After fifteen days the fully developed insect emerges—'A' photograph showing *Gastrallus Indicus (Larvae)*; 'B' photograph showing *Gastrallus Indicus (Beetle)*.

63. *Damage by Gastrallus Indicus*

Damage is in the form of circular pinholes and empty parallel tunnels. The cover board of a proceeding volume damaged by *Gastrallus Indicus*.

64. *Silverfish (Lepisma Saccharina)*

These tiny insects have glistening scales which give them a metallic lustre. They are active only in damp and dark places and hide away in crevices in light. They feed upon paper, starch, glue, cloth, rayon etc.—Photograph showing Silverfish.

65. *Cockroach*

Cockroach is perhaps the most common of all the household insects and is omnivorous, eating paper, board, leather and cloth binding, especially where paste and sizing is used. Moist air, warmth and darkness form the most favourable environments for their breeding. Photograph showing a group of Cockroaches.

## 66. *Damage by Cockroaches*

A piece of binding cloth sizing of which has been partly eaten away by surface feeders (Cockroaches and Silverfish).

## 67. *Micro-organisms (Mildew and Fungi)*

A group of vegetable organisms (grey to dark brown in colour) attack paper and board producing brown rusty patches usually known as foxing. These micro-organisms grow very slowly at low temperatures (40°F) but very rapidly at the optimum temperature which is different for different species. They are killed at high temperature. High humidity and stagnant air, provide favourable conditions for their growth. A foxed document (original).

## 68. *Termites (White ants)*

These insects are probably the most destructive to cellulose including paper, board, wooden shelves, boxes, books, leather and fabric. Their infestation once started is both difficult and expensive to completely eradicate—'A' photograph showing Termite King and Queen : Reproductive male and female reproductive character of which strengthens the colony; 'B' Photograph showing Termite worker, responsible for damage.

## 69. *Damage done by Termites to Manuscripts*

A damaged sheet (original).

### (ii) Methods of controlling Infestation

## 70. *Fumigation with Thymol Vapours*

Fungus infestation is easily checked by thymol vapours. Fumigation is carried in specially designed cup-boards which are made reasonably airtight. The volume to be sterilised is placed 9 inches above the bottom of the cup-board on a frame work. A 40 Watt electric lamp installed at the base of the cup-board heats the thymol crystals placed in a watch-glass supported on a stand 2" above the lamp. Fumigation is carried out for 6–10 days depending upon the extent of infestation—'A' photograph showing a view of fumigation cup-board; 'B' photograph showing drawing of the fumigation cup-board.

## 71. *Fumigation with Paradichlorobenzene*

Fumigation with paradichlorobenzene is effective for killing book beetle and book lice. Fumigation of insect infested records is carried out in perforated shelves. Fumigant in crystalline form is placed in a glass jar at the lower-most shelf, and fumigation goes on at room temperature—Photograph showing fumigation vault.



## 72. *Vacuum Fumigation*

Fumigation of insect infested records with carboxide mixture (Ethylene Oxide : Carbon dioxide 1 : 9 by weight) under vacuum is the most effective and efficient process for killing insects and eggs—Photograph showing Vacuum Fumigation Chamber installed in the National Archives of India.

## 73. *Protection of wooden structure against Termite attack*

As soon as termite infestation is observed in a library or a record depository, separation of all wooden structure from the infested ground, forms one of the most effective precautionary measures—Photograph showing an almirah protected against termite damage. (All the four legs are placed in metallic cups containing coaltar creosote in kerosene oil.)

### (C) *Advancement in photoduplication of records*

## 74. *Portable microfilm camera*

Microfilming is an accepted technique of preservation and reproduction. Since transit of rare manuscripts is not safe, they can be micro-filmed with portable microfilm camera at site—'A' photograph of Portable Microfilm Camera Model E (National Archives of India); 'B' Specimen strip of microfilm negative.

## 75. *Portable Microfilm Enlarger*

Prints of readable size can be easily obtained by the portable microfilm enlarger—'A' Portable Microfilm Enlarger; 'B' Specimen of a photographic print.

## 76. *Portable Microfilm Reader*

Unlike other microfilm readers, a portable microfilm reader is easy to carry while it makes the reading of microfilms as convenient as the bigger models—Photograph of a Portable Microfilm Reader.

## 77. *Portable Microfilm Printer*

Positive microfilm copies can be made out from the negative by the portable microfilm printer—'A' Portable Microfilm Printer; 'B' Positive microfilm copy.

### STATE ARCHIVES, ANDHRA PRADESH

#### I. *Sultans of the Deccan*

##### A. *Bahmani*

1. *Farman* of Feroz Shah Bahmani (1397-1422) granting *Inam* (Persian).

2. Map : India in 1398, Bahmani Deccan.

**B. Qutb Shahi**

3. *Farman* of Sultan Muhammad Abdullah Qutb Shah (1626-1672) concerning grant of *Inam* (Persian).
4. *Farman* of Abul Hasan Tanashah (1672-1687) regarding the grant of *Deshmukh* (Persian).
5. *Hukumnama* of Akkanna and Madanna regarding grant of land (Telugu).

**C. Adil Shahi**

6. *Farman* of Ali Adil Shah II (1656-1672) regarding the grant of villages (Persian).
7. *Farman* of Ali Shah II with his seal and that of the Portuguese Government regarding grant of *Mansab*, etc. (After the grant the whole of Goa was ceded to Portuguese) (Persian).

*Publication*

8. "*Farmans* and the *Sanads* of Deccan Sultans (1406-1686)" (Persian text with English summaries).

**II. Mughals**

**A. Shah Jahan (1627-1658)**

9. Memorandum containing details of total revenues of *Subas* of Khandesh and Deccan (Persian).
10. *Nishan* of Prince Aurangzeb and Tughra for grant of a land for the maintenance of a mosque (Persian).
11. List of high ranking military officers (Persian).

*Publication*

12. *Selected Documents of Shah Jahan's Reign* (Persian text with English summaries).

**B. Aurangzeb (1658-1707)**

13. Abstract of *Siyaha* regarding the Emperor's order to the nobles etc. for filling up the trench at Golconda (Persian).
14. Grant of *Mansab* to Rajah Shahuji, grandson of Shivaji (Persian).
15. *Dastak* for the arrest of Shivaji and his son (Persian).
16. *Siyaha* for the admonition of Man Singh and destruction of his fortress, details of the army etc. (Persian).

17. Naroji of Shivaji's army joining Imperial Service of Emperor Aurangzeb (Persian).
18. Restoration of *Jagir* and grant to Timaji (Persian).

*Publication*

19. *Selected Waqai of the Deccan* (1660-71 A.D.) (Persian text with English summaries).
20. *Selected Documents of Aurangzeb's reign* (Persian text with English summaries).

III. *Asaf Jahis*

A. *Asaf Jah I and his Successors* (1720-1761)

21. Order for the collection of revenues from Jinji territories and *Peshkush* from zamindars of Trichinapally and Tanjore (Persian).
22. Order of Nawab Salabat Jung for issue of *Sanad* on the petition of Bussy for the grant of Northern Circars (Persian).
23. Note to draw up a *Sanad* for granting Masulipatam and Nizampatam Circars as *Inam* to Col. Poole (Persian).
24. Map : India in 1751 : English and French Struggle for Supremacy in the Deccan.

*Publication*

25. *The Chronology of Modern Hyderabad* (1720-1819) (English translation from Original Persian).

B. *Nizam Ali Khan, Asaf Jah II.* (1762-1803)

26. Office note to issue a *Sanad* granting to the Nawab of Karnatak the whole of Karnatak Balaghati (Persian).
27. Memorandum of proposals for setting the *Chauth* and *Sardeshmukhi* issues between the Peshwa and Nizam Ali Khan (Marathi).
28. *Poona Akhbar* referring to the capture of an English merchantman with cargo of satin by Maratha coastguards near Suvarnadurg (Marathi).
29. Memorandum for repairing the city walls of Hyderabad city (Persian).
30. Memorandum containing the gist of Nizam Ali Khan's letter to Nana Fadnavis requesting the Maratha Government to send their forces in time for collective campaign against Tipu Sultan (Marathi).
31. A bilingual treaty for the improvement of trade and commerce between the territories of East India Company and those of the Nizam,

signed by the British Resident Major Kirkpatrick for the Company (Persian & English).

32. Map : India in 1795 : Maratha Expansion and Growth of British Power.

*Publications*

33. *News Letters of Nizam Ali Khan's Reign* (1767-1799). English translation with original Persian text.
34. *The Diplomatic Correspondence between Mir Nizam Ali Khan the Governor General and others* (1780-93). (English translation from original Persian).
35. *Sanpuri Bakhar* (Marathi text with English summary).
36. *Poona Akhbar* Vol. I (1773-81) Marathi texts with English summaries.
37. *Poona Akhbar* Vol. II (1781 A.D.) Marathi texts with English summaries.
38. *Poona Akhbar* Vol. III (1782-1794) Marathi texts with English summaries.
- C. *Later Asaf Jahi Period* (1803-1948)
39. Court Bulletin of Nawab Sikander Jah Bahadur (1803-1829 A.D.) (Persian).
40. Copy of Petition by Mohanlal, Postal Officer entreating sanction for abolishing the British India Postal Service (1839) (Persian).
41. A paper (dt. 1866) throwing light on differences between Nawab Afzal-ud-Dawla and Nawab Salar Jung which was one of the causes for the resignation of Nawab Salar Jung (English).
42. A document dealing with a treaty relating to extradition of offenders which was concluded on 25th May 1867 between the British Government and Hyderabad State (during Asaf Jah V period) (English).
43. A letter (dt. 1868) from Shivaji Rao Holkar to the Nizam in connection with the present of *Til* seeds on the occasion of Makara Sankranti festival as a mark of friendship (English).
44. *A Salar Jung Paper* (1870)  
A letter of Salar Jung I to Mukram-ud-Dowla relating to the appointment of Nizam in case of the premature death of Mahboob Ali Khan (Persian).
45. Recommendation letter (dt. 1894) of Sarvar-Jung to Miss Saroj Chattopadhyay (later Mrs. Sarojini Naidu) for a first class scholarship (English).

46. *Farman* (dt. 26th April 1917) of Nawab Mir Osman Ali Khan Bahadur regarding the establishment of Osmania University (Urdu),
47. Letter (dt. 1918) of Mr. Jinnah regarding his visit to Hyderabad (English).
48. A letter of Mahatma Gandhi Dt. 7th June 1940 addressed to Akbar Hyderi (English).

#### IV. Records of the Andhra area of the Madras Presidency

49. Gazette Notification about Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931 (English).
50. Map : Agency Fituri 1922-23 Rebel Area.

### STATE CENTRAL RECORD OFFICE, BIHAR

#### I. Persian Documents

1. *Firman*—dated the 26th *Shahriwar*, 22nd year (1626-27 A.D.) of the reign of Jhangir Badshah, for the grant of 275 bighas of land in the village Koela Mahan, Pargana 'Bisara, Sarkar Tirhut, Subah Bihar, in the name of Shahabuddin, son of the late Syed Jelal.
2. *Firman*—dated the 24th *Shaban*, 39th year (9 April 1695) of the reign of Alamgir I Badshah, for the grant of the village Udaipur and others, Pargana Bhaur, Sarkar Tirhut, Subah Bihar, in the name of Saiyeda Bakshish Fatima, as *Madad-i-Mash* for the *niaz* of Saiyed-us-Shuhada (Imam Hussain).
3. *Firman*—dated the 11th *Rajab*, 36th Year (29 March 1692) of the reign of Alamgir I Badshah, confirming the grant of 100 *bighas* of land, in Pargana Nawawan, Sarkar Tirhut, Subah Bihar, in the name of Musammat Rabia and others, made earlier by Isfandiyar Khan (Faujdar).
4. *Manshoor*—dated the 16th *Rajab*, 1069 (9 April 1659) with the seal of Shahjahan Badshah, for the grant of 100 *bighas* of land, in Pargana Hajipur, Sarkar Hajipur, Subah Bihar, in the name of Syed Mohibullah as *Madad-i-Mash*.
5. *Hasb-ul-Hukum*—dated the 9th *Zilhijja*, 46th year (7 May 1702) of the reign of Alamgir I Badshah, for the grant of 150 *bighas* of land, in Pargana Nawawan, Sarkar Tirhut, Subah Bihar, in the name of Musammat Karima and others, as *Madad-i-Mash*.

## II. *English Documents*

6. *Letter*—dated the 2nd July 1857, from H. C. Wake Esq., Officiating Magistrate, Shahabad, to W. Taylor, Esq., Commissioner of Patna Division, reporting the state of feeling at Arrah immediately before the outbreak of the great revolt of 1857.
7. *Letter*—dated the 8th August 1857, from H. C. Wake, Esq., Magistrate of Arrah, to W. Taylor, Esq., Commissioner of Patna Division, giving a narrative of the defence and rescue of Englishmen at Arrah on the outbreak of the great revolt of 1857.
8. *Death Warrants*—dated 7th July 1857, of Peer Ali Khan, Guseeta, Gholam Abbas, Nandlal, Joomun, Undhoo and others, for having participated in the great revolt of 1857.
9. *Letter*—dated the 1st April 1856, conveying Government's decision to take over the management of the English Protestant Church at Patna.
10. *Copy of Letter*—dated 1st March 1856, from the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Lucknow, intimating the intended journey of the King of Oudh to Calcutta and asking for due honour and assistance to be extended to him when passing through Bihar.
11. *Papers*—relating to the establishment of a *Dak* at Rewah (Chota Nagpur) for easy communications, 1812.
12. *Letter*—from the Governor-General in Council, dated the 19th September 1868, appreciating the services rendered by Col. Dalton during the Keonjhar disturbances of 1868.

## STATE ARCHIVES, KERALA

### I. *Agreements and Treaties*

1. Treaty of alliance of 1805 A.D. between the English East India Company and Travancore.
2. Treaty between the Portuguese and the Dutch on the capitulation of the Fort of Cochin and the Settlement arrived at with the Raja Cochin after the Treaty, 322 (1663 A.D.). There are five plates, two of which are of the *Varaguna* of Lunar Race (undeciphered). These are written in *Vattezhuthu* and in old Sanskrit.
3. *Grandhom*—regarding the invasion of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan and subsequent treaties including the transfer of Chitrakudam, 1790 A.D.
4. Treaty of perpetual friendship made between the East India Company and the Raja of Cochin by which the latter agreed to pay annually to the said Company a subsidy of Rs. 2,76,037/- the amount payable in 6 equal *kists*. This treaty was ratified in Council on 17-10-1809 A.D.

## II. Donations

5. *Jamabandi* order to *Saryadhikariakar* for payment of Rs. 5,000/- for Bengal Famine Relief Fund; dated 5-3-1874.
6. *Neetu* (Writ or Commission)—regarding grant of Rs. 5,000/- for famine relief in Ireland—1823 A.D.
7. *Neetu* (Writ or Commission)—regarding grant of Rs. 5,000/- for relief to weaving labourers in England caused by the American Civil War, dated 20-9-1862.
8. *Neetu* (Writ or Commission)—regarding grant of Rs. 4,000/- for relief in Bengal from destruction caused by storm and rain, dated 29-11-1864.

## III. Miscellaneous Documents

9. *Neetu* (Writ or Commission)—regarding the search of Velu Thampi—1809 A.D.
10. Royaj letters, Vol. I—1811 to 1812 A.D.
11. Bamboo splits containing writings thereon. These relate to the years 1640-1690 A.D. They are private documents relating to the Trichur Brahmaswom Mutt.
12. Portuguese and Dutch letters (Original with translations), 1706-1790 A.D.

## IV. Proclamation (Original)

13. Proclamation by the Raja dated 1818 A.D. introducing compulsory primary education in the State among all classes of the Highness' subjects (copy).
14. Treaty between the British Government and the Gwalior Barbar not known.

## V. Seals

15. Three seals in persian characters Wax seals undeciphered. Year not known.

## MADHYA PRADESH GOVERNMENT (HISTORICAL SECTION)

### I Engagements and Kharitas

1. Treaty of Surji Arjun-Gaon (1803).
2. Treaty with Ambaji Rao Ingle and the Hon'ble East India Company settled by General Gerard Lake (1803).
3. Treaty of Burhanpur (1804).
4. Treaty of Mustafapur (1805).

5. Treaty between the British Government and the Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia signed at Gwalior (1817).
6. Treaty between the Hon'ble Company and Kirat Singh of Gohad (1804).
7. Engagements between the Hon'ble East India Company and Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia regarding *Pindarabs* (1818).
8. Urdu *Kharita* by A.G.G. regarding Mutiny Services.
9. Treaty between the Hon'ble the East India Company and Maharaja Jayaji Rao Scindia signed at Gwalior (1844).
10. Agreement between the Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia and the British Government regarding the Nimar District (1823).
11. Agreement between Maharaja Jayaji Rao Scindia and the British Government regarding exchange of territories (1860).
12. Lord Dufferin's letter regarding restoration of the Gwalior Fort and the Cantonment of Morar (1886).
13. Lord Dufferin's letter regarding the exchange of territories in Jhansi District (1888).
14. Treaty of Benares (1860).
15. Treaty between the British Government and the Gwalior Darbar (1871).

## II. Copper Plate and Seals

16. Copper Plate recording grant of Kasba Bhesoda with revenue of Rs. 15,000/- by Maharaja Bijey Singh of Jodhpur to Abaji Raghunath (Samvat 1847).
17. Seals of *Chapdes* to be used for postal bags.

## ORISSA STATE ARCHIVES

### *Oriya, Persian and Modi Documents*

#### I. Sanads and Agreements

1. *Ikrarnama*—executed by Upendra Bhupati Harichandan Mohaptra, Raja of Sukinda in favour of Honourable East India Company's Special Commissioner for Orissa, dated 13 July 1827. (Accession No. 45/5.)
2. *Notification*—for revenue settlement issued by the Special Commissioner for Orissa after the conquest of Orissa in 1803, dated 15 September 1804. (Accession No. 81(C)/7.)



3. *Sanad*—by Mughal Government in favour of Chaitan Das Babaji granting some land for his maintenance, dated 1748-49. (Accession No. 120/30.)
4. *Sanad*—granted by Maratha Government confirming the land previously granted to Narashingha Rajguru by the Raja of Khurda, dated 2nd half of 18th century. (Accession No. 121/30.)
5. *Sanad*—by Alamgir granting land to Sk. Fakir Mehmmed a student as *madad-i-mash*, dated 1754-59. (Accession No. 183/30.)
6. *Sanad*—by Qazi in favour of Dargha Shamuddaula Marifat Khadim Jamal-Shah granting some land, dated 1803. Accession No. 190/30.)
7. *Sanad*—issued by Suja-uddin Muhummed Khan, Nazim of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in favour of Purusotam Bharati for his maintenance and *Sadabrate*, dated 1727-39. (Accession No. 215/30.)
8. *Agreement*—executed by Bhagaban Das Muqaddam for the village **Bhingarpur** in favour of the East India Company, dated 1803-04. (Accession No. 216/30.)
9. *Sanad*—Land granted to Sk. Allauddin as *madad-i-mash* by the Maratha Government, dated 2nd half of 18th century. (Accession No. 285/30.)
10. *Parwana*—issued by the Maratha Government to Zamindar, Padmapur to give possession of the *madad-i-mash* land granted to Burhim Khan, dated 1800-01. Accession No. 358/30.)
11. *Sanad*—Land granted by Maratha Government to Musammat Lakka Bibi, dated 2nd half of 18th century. (Accession No. 412/30.)
12. *Sanad*—*Rakta Patta* granted by Narayan Deo of Gangpur for services rendered to him, dated 1708 A.D.

## II. Miscellaneous Documents

13. *Historical Manuscript*—containing the genealogy of the family of the ruling Chief of Gangpur, an ex-state of Orissa, dated approximately 19th century.
14. *Literary Manuscript*—illustrated short Oriya lyric entitled “Dasa Poi” by Yuga Bhanja containing 10 stanzas of poem relating to “Radhakrishna lila”, dated approximately first half of the 18th century.
15. *Bhaunria or Revenue Record*—containing details of land, revenue assessed and paid, dated 1858-59.

16. *Calligraphy*—A *sloka* of *Gitagovinda* written on a bamboo leaf by Hadibandhu Tripathy, a specimen of minute but distinct Oriya writing on bamboo leaf. A modern work.
17. *Indigenous playing cards*—used in Orissa in the 18th-19th century, and still used in some parts of Orissa. 18th-19th century.

# PUNJAB STATE ARCHIVES

## Manuscripts

1. *Tarikh-i-Kalan-Kashmir*—1890-95 B.E. (1833-38 A.D.)

A voluminous statistical history of Kashmir prepared on the plan of *Ain-i-Akbari*, presented to Col. Meehan Singh, the then Governor of Kashmir. No other copy of this work is known to exist. (M/829)

2. *Tarikh-i-Kashmir* by Shri Narayan Kaul. 1760 A.D.

A history of Kashmir based on Kalhana's *Rajatarangini*. (M/815)

3. *Tarikh-i-Sindh* by Muhammed Ma'sum, 1610 A.D.

A well-known work written during the reigns of Akbar and Jahangir. (M/728)

4. *Zaffar-Nama* by Sri Guru Gobind Singh (Scribe : Pt. Raja Ram Tota). 1872 A.D.

Letter of Guru Govind Singh addressed to Aurangzeb. (M/824)

5. *Akhbarat-i-Angrezi* by Kanwar Singh Vakil. 27-8-1841.

A collection of news from January 1841, to August 1841 A.D., with particular reference to the Punjab, written at Ludhiana. (M/769)

6. *Iqbal-Nama-Maharaja Ranjit Singh* by Pt. Raja Ram Tota. 1860 A.D.

A history of 40 years of the reign of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. (M/649)

7. *Travels in Central Asia* by Pt. Manphool and Ghulam Rabbani. 1866-1868 A.D.

Original manuscript record of a journey from Ladakh etc. (M/357)

8. *Kabul Diary* by P. R. Pollock. 1868 A.D.

Weekly survey of contemporary political developments at Kabul from 11th May to 22nd October 1868 A.D. (M/356)

9. *Tarikh-Nama I & II.*

History of the Punjab from the rise of Maharaja Ranjit Singh is dealt with in elaborate detail. (M/413)

10. *Darbar Akhbarat I & II* by Lala Kanhya Lal Vakil. 1898 B.E. (1841 A.D.)

Chronicle of day to day events at the Court of Sher Singh. (M/412)

11. *Baj Baj Nama* by Muhammad Raza.

History of Sindh up to the middle of 16th century. (M/433)

12. *Tarikh-i-Muzaffari*, 1832 A.D. (1248 A.H.)

History of the Mughals from Taimur to Shah Alam II (1759-1806 A.D.) (M/382)

13. *Kissa Hazarat Musa* by Maulana Muin-ud-din.

History of Moses. (M/437)

14. *Darbar Akhbarat I & II* by Lala Kanhya Lal Vakil. 1898 B.E. (1841 A.D.)

Day to day chronicles of events at the court of M. Ranjit Singh. (M/419)

15. *Muhammad-Nama* by Muhammad Zahur, 1196 A.H. (1781 A.D.)

A history of the Deccan dealing with the reign of Muhammad Shah Ibrahim (1626-1660 A.D.) (M/727)

16. *Jang-nama Gorkha* by an eye-witness, who participated in the campaign. August, 1815 A.D.

An account of the Anglo-Gorkha War of 1814-1815 A.D. (M/663)

17. *Gulgasht-i-Panjab* by Pt. Raja Ram Tota. 1849 A.D.

A general history of the Panjab from 1469 to 1848 A.D. (M/790)

## 18. Bhandari Family Collection (Two Volumes).

(i) Correspondence between Lahore Darbar and British Functionaries, 1813-1867.

(ii) News Papers *Jam-i-Jahan Numa* etc. Mid-19th century.

## STATE ARCHIVES, UTTAR PRADESH

*Persian Documents—Farman*

1. *Farman* of Emperor Akbar, dated 992 A.H. or 1584 A.D. 38 *bighas* of land have been granted as *madad-i-maash* in Pargana

Sidhaur, Sarkar Lucknow, to Sayyid Alam and Sayyid Haya. (S.A. No. 1545)

2. *Farman* of Sultan Salim Shah Ghazi, dated 1st *Asfandarmuz*, 47th R.Y. of Emperor Akbar, or 1603-04 A.D. 140 *bighas* of land have been granted in Pargana Sadrpur, Sarkar Khairabad, as *madad-i-maash* to Shaikh Idris and others. (S.A. No. 276).
3. *Farman* of Emperor Jahangir, dated 1027 A.H. or 1617-18 A.D. 170 *bighas* of land have been granted in Pargana Sadrpur, Sarkar Khairabad, as *madad-i-maash* to Shaikh Abul Faiz and others. (S.A. No. 285)
4. *Farman* of Emperor Jahangir, dated 9th Amardad, 15th R.Y. or 1620-21 A.D. 200 *bighas* of land have been granted as *madad-i-maash* in Pargana Fakharpur Sarkar Bahraich, to Mst. Raj Gosain. (S.A. No. 292)
5. *Farman* of Emperor Jahangir, dated 9th Shahryar, 16th R.Y. or 1621-22 A.D. 150 *bighas* of land have been granted in Pargana Sadrpur, Sarkar Khairabad, as *madad-i-maash* to Bahauddin and his sons. (S.A. No. 275)
6. *Farman* of Emperor Shah Jahan, dated 27th Aban Mah, 1st R.Y. or 1628 A.D. Firm instructions have been issued to subdue the insurgents, Kapoor, Dharmakund, Kishandas and others for assaulting and injuring the party of Shaikh Abdul Makarim, Abdul Muniam etc. (S.A. No. 278)
7. *Farman* of Emperor Shah Jahan, dated 12th Tir, 6th R.Y. or 1633-34 A.D. 50 *bighas* of land have been donated in Pargana Sadrpur, Sarkar Khairabad, as *madad-i-maash* to Abdul Wali and others. (S.A. No. 282)
8. *Farman* of Emperor Shah Jahan, dated 17th Safar, 1043 A.H. or 1633 A.D. Instructions for recruitment and supply of one thousand *Beldars* of Uzbujh tribe of Qandhar by the Jagirdars of Awadh. (S.A. No. 291)
9. *Farman* of Emperor Shah Jahan, dated 1047 A.H. or 1637-38 A.D. Confirmation of *madad-i-maash* grant for 200 *bighas* of land in Pargana Sadrpur, Sarkar Khairabad to Mst. Soaleha and others. (S.A. No. 280)
10. *Nishan* of Mohd. Dara Shikoh, dated 5th Zilhijja, 1066 A.H. or 14th September, 1656 A.D. 30 *bighas* of land are granted as *madad-i-maash* in Pargana Kara, Allahabad, to Sayyid Ghayasuddin. (S.A. No. 1876)

11. *Farman* of Emperor Aurangzeb, dated 28th Zibad, 3rd R.Y. or 1660 A.D. Orders are issued to take immediate action against the uprising of Sumer Singh, Zamindar of Bibhnauti and others who are reported to have collected a large number of soldiers, burnt the villages, demolished buildings, killed and imprisoned people and looted Rs. 8,213 in cash and 6376 heads of cattle, in Pargana Sadrpur. (S.A. No. 290)
12. *Farman* of Emperor Aurangzeb, dated 16th Jamad I, 6th R.Y. or 1662 A.D. A robe of honour is awarded to Prithi Singh, Rajah of Srinagar (Garhwal) for his noble services and loyalty to Emperor Aurangzeb. (S.A. No. 1527)
13. *Nishan* of Mohd. Azam Shah, dated 12th Rabi I, 1117 A.H. or 23rd June, 1705 A.D. 200 *bighas* of land are granted as *madad-i-maash* in village Kamasin etc. Pargana Kara, Allahabad to Syyid Barkhurdar and Sayyid Mohd. Zia. (S.A. No. 1874).
14. *Farman* of Emperor Bahadur Shah the 1st, dated 1121 A.H. or 1709-10 A.D. 200 *bighas* of land are granted as *madad-i-maash* in village Kamasin, Pargana Kara, Allahabad to Sayyid Burkhurdar and Sayyid S.M. Zia. (S.A. No. 1875)
15. *Farman* of Emperor Farrukh Siyar, dated 5th Zilhijja, 3rd R.Y. or 1715 A.D. 30,000 *dams* from *Qasbah* Sandi, *Sarkar* Khairabad, *Subah* Avadh, are granted to Rai Saroman Das, as *Inam* (reward) for inhabitation of the above village. (S.A. No. 1)
16. *Farman* of Emperor Shah Alam, dated 7th Jamad I, 32nd R.Y. 1789 A.D. 5,000 *dams* and 100 *bighas* of land are granted as *Maufi* to Seel Chand in *Qasbah* Pargana, Mohammedpur, *alias* Than Bhawan, *Sarkar* Saharanpur. (S.A. No. 1839).
17. *Farman* of King Mohd. Ali Shah of Avadh, dated 21st Shawwal, 1254 A.H. or 9th January 1839 A.D. *Maufi* grant of the State Buildings situated on the road between Khas Bazar and Dilkusha, Lucknow, with the adjoining land measuring 33698 sq. yards conferred by King Mohammad Ali Shah on his daughter Nawab Zinat-un-Nisa Amina Begum (S.A. No. 289)  
N.B. S.A. means State Archives of U.P. Allahabad.

SECRETARIAT RECORD OFFICE, MAHARASHTRA

Satara Seals—Gold seals bearing legends in Marathi.

#### GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Palm-leaf Manuscript—containing copies of grants and orders by Dalavayi Devarajaiah and Krishnarajendra Wodeyar II, the Raja of Mysore. 18th century.

## SHRI B. K. APTE (NAGPUR UNIVERSITY)

1. A *Sanad* of Emperor Aurangzeb (1671 A.D.)
2. A letter of Janoji Bhonsle.
3. A letter of Raghuji Bhonsle II.
4. Revenue accounts of the six subas of the Deccan.
5. Land revenue papers of Adgaon (Akola District, Maharashtra).
6. A map of Vijaydurg Fort (Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra).
7. Five drawings of Maratha Warships.

## KARNATAK UNIVERSITY, DHARWAR

1. A rare book—"A Review of the Origin, Progress and Result of the Decisive war with the Late Tipoo Sultan" by James Salmond, published in London in 1800.
2. Photograph of Shivaji prepared from a sculpture recently discovered.

## HERAS INSTITUTE OF INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE, BOMBAY

*Photographs*

1. Title page of the first book printed in Bombay, in 1793. This is the only existing copy.
2. Woodcut representing *Garuda* riding a *Naga*, 18th century. It may be noted that the Vaishnava mark on the forehead stands out in relief, and is not chiselled into the wood.
3. Woodcut representing the Child Jesus sitting in Indian style, of late 16th or early 17th century. Probably fashioned by a Hindu artist adept in the art, judging from the suppleness of the limbs.
4. Woodcut seeking to imitate No. 3 of 17th or 18th century. Probably fashioned by a Christian artist, who was new to the task, for the stiffness of the limbs contrasts with the suppleness seen in 3.